

Tucson shootings form backdrop to King Day celebration

ATLANTA – Speakers at Martin Luther King Day celebrations warned on Monday of the dangers of harsh political rhetoric in the wake of a mass shooting in Arizona that killed six and left a congresswoman gravely wounded. The speakers including civil rights leader Congressman John Lewis and Attorney General Eric Holder said the attack last Saturday outside a supermarket in Tucson highlighted the relevance of King's philosophy of non-violence.

"A senseless rampage in Tucson, Arizona,

reminded us that more than 40 years after Dr. King's own tragic death our long struggle to end suffering and to eradicate violence goes on," Holder told a congregation at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, where King was pastor.

"But today, once more, we can see the stars," said Holder. King was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1968. Monday was the 25th national holiday to celebrate his birth in 1929.

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:582-7800 Tuesday, January 18, 2011

How Hu and Obama can cleanse toxic U.S.-China relations

Port Townsend, Wash. – Heads of foreign government flow through Washington like water, often with little public notice outside the Beltway. Photos of President Obama with President Nicolas Sarkozy or Prime Minister Angela Merkel might not make the nation's front pages.

A visit by China's president is a different matter. Hu Jintao arrives in Washington tomorrow, and his every move will be the object of intense scrutiny.

The reasons are obvious: China's is now the world's second-biggest economy, after our own. It now generates more atmospheric greenhouse gasses even than the US. Its military is advancing conspicuously in technical sophistication and skill, potentially bumping up against long-held US assumptions and prerogatives in the Pacific. The US and China in 2010 found themselves out of sync, or at loggerheads, on issue after issue, with China adopting a more muscular tone than Americans have been accustomed to.

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Giffords doing well after weekend surgeries: doctors

Read Page A3

25th ANNIVERSARY



In this Jan. 13, 2011, file photo Yolanda King, 2, left, in the arms of her mother Arndrea King, right, looks up at a portrait of her grandfather, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., hanging in its new location in the State Capitol, after participating in a ceremony honoring the late civil rights leader in Atlanta.

Associated Press

Errors lead surgeons to contemplate suicide

CHICAGO – A study suggests medical errors, job burnout and depression lead surgeons to contemplate suicide at higher rates than the general public, and they're much less likely to seek help.

Fear of losing their jobs contributes to surgeons' reluctance to get mental health treatment, according to the study. Nearly 8,000 surgeons participated.

About 6 percent reported recent suicidal thoughts; the rate was 16 percent among those who'd made a recent major medical error although it wasn't known if that was the reason.

Only about one-fourth of those with suicidal thoughts said they'd sought professional mental health. By contrast, among the general population, about 3 percent have suicidal thoughts and 44 percent of them seek mental health treatment, other studies have shown.

"Surgeons reported a great deal of concern about potential repercussions for their license to practice medicine," and many admitted self-medicating with antidepressant drugs, said lead author Dr. Tait Shanafelt of the Mayo Clinic.

See Health Page B12

TUCSON

Continued from Front Page

Jared Loughner, 22, is charged with five federal counts, including murder and the attempted assassination of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords over the rampage. Giffords was shot in the head and gravely wounded. In all, six people were killed and 13 wounded.

"If Doctor King could speak to us today he would tell us that we should always be kind to each other. He would tell us that we must learn how to disagree without being hostile and violent," said Lewis.

Lewis is considered a hero of the struggle against racial segregation in the South in part because as a student leader in 1965, state police breaking up a peaceful march in Selma, Alabama, for voting rights, beat him so badly they fractured his skull.

"He (King) would say to us today that words can be harmful and dangerous," Lewis said.

STATE OF THE UNION

None of the main speakers at the annual service made an explicit link between political rhetoric and the shooting but the attacks formed a somber backdrop to the service.

"Today we are all a citizen of Tucson," said Senator Saxby Chambliss, a Republican from Georgia.

The highly-charged event is a highlight of Atlanta's calendar, drawing politicians from across the spectrum as well as leaders from major religions.

It gained significance as a national event because Ebenezer is located on the same street where King was born. But amid calls for unity some speakers also used the occasion to promote King's social gospel with its message of equality and fairness. Such appeals, delivered to the delight of an overwhelmingly African American audience, often come in the form of thinly-veiled endorsements of Democratic Party policies and at the expense of Republicans.

"We have got to stop giving tax breaks to the wealthy while we break the backs of the poor and middle class," said King's son, Martin Luther King, in a keynote speech in which he also called for a moratorium on home foreclosures.

In a witty, passionate speech, Reverend Raphael Warnock, the pastor of Ebenezer, appealed to Republicans and Democrats in Congress to agree to sit together during President Barack Obama's State of the Union speech on January 25 rather than sit separately in party blocs.

"Maybe after Arizona what our children need to see is they need to see us sitting together," Warnock said, arguing in a reference to King, that the symbol would have a larger social meaning.

"How do we tell Bloods and Crips to reconcile when ... Republicans and Democrats can't sit together," he said, referring to street gang names. "Are they (Congress) members of rival gangs or are they servants of the people." □

How MLK's message can help America heal

New York — For many, King's legacy of nonviolence has taken on renewed importance in the wake of the Tucson rampage. Here, some of the best commentary

The holiday honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. has been infused with special meaning this year, coming just days after the Tucson massacre that left six dead and Rep. Gabrielle Giffords on the critical list. The civil rights leader, who was cut down by an assassin's bullet in 1968, left a message of nonviolence, justice, and tolerance that is needed more than ever, said Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal at a tribute to King on Thursday, and "deserves to be repeated through the ages." How can reflecting on King's life help heal a nation still reeling from the tragedy in Arizona? (Watch talk-show host Tavis Smiley discuss King's legacy)

Remember King's final speech: King's last address, entitled "I See the Promised Land," was about the civil rights struggle, says Andrew Belonsky in *Death and Taxes*, but "the message reverberates today." He said our divided nation faced a choice between "nonviolence and nonexistence." Similarly, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, who was critically wounded in Tucson, recently said we need to tone down our rhetoric and partisanship. "Let King's death and Giffords' shooting not be in vain. We should heed their words."

"In Martin Luther King's final speech, shades of



Giffords' shooting" Nonviolence is a position of strength, not weakness: It's only natural that, after the "horrific events in Tucson," we should reflect on the great leaders we have lost to violence, says Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-Penn.) in *Gant Daily*, including Martin Luther King, John F. Kennedy, and Abraham Lincoln. And we should remember that King's path is one of strength, not weakness. "Nonviolence," King said, "is a powerful and just weapon, which cuts without wounding and ennobles the man who wields it. It is a sword that heals."

"Abraham, Martin, and John"

King knew violent words can lead to violent acts: When four African-American girls were killed in the bombing of Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church, says the Rev. Jesse Jackson in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Martin Luther King declared that Alabama's Gov. George Wallace had blood on his hands. King didn't think

Wallace wanted those children to die, but he knew that Wallace had "cynically fanned racist fires with his rhetoric and actions." Today, we need to remember that hateful rhetoric can influence the "mentally unstable" people who commit these crimes. "Hate speech lit blaze in Arizona"

We should repeat King's words publicly, and often: It's a "grim coincidence" that the shootings came just before Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, says Dale McFeatters at *Scripps News*. But both this tragedy and King's assassination reflect a nation "badly off course." To remind us of our founders' vision, members of the House recently read the Constitution aloud. Maybe they should read King's "I Have a Dream" speech to remind us that what leaders say "does not have to be all sound bites and invective; it can be a soaring appeal to the best in us and our form of government."

"Tucson and echoes of Martin Luther King Jr." □

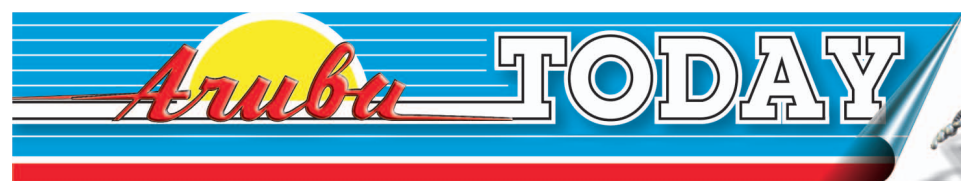
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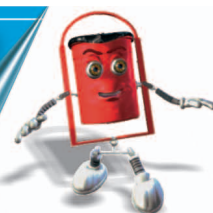
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Giffords doing well after weekend surgeries: doctors

TUCSON, Arizona — Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords was recovering well from a pair of weekend surgeries to remove a breathing tube from her nose and the repair her right eye socket, doctors said on Monday. Dr. Michael Lemole, chief of Neurology at University Medical Center in Tucson, said Giffords' next milestone would be discharge from the hospital, marking her graduation from recovery to rehabilitation.

"It could be a matter of days or weeks," Lemole told reporters at a press conference.

Giffords, 40, was struck in the head by a single bullet during the shooting rampage, which killed six people and injured 13, including the congresswoman.

She was upgraded from critical to serious condition on Sunday, after she had been removed from a ventilator and the critical risk of brain swelling had passed.

Giffords, a Democrat representing Tucson and southern Arizona who authorities believe was the gunman's intended target, had been the only victim of the shooting still listed in critical condition.

One patient was discharged on Saturday,

leaving two others hospitalized in good condition. College dropout Jared Lee Loughner, 22, was tackled to the ground and arrested following the shooting and has been charged with five federal counts, including murder and the attempted assassination of Giffords. Doctors said Giffords remains mostly uncommunicative, despite the removal of the tubes in her face.

The removal of the breathing tube from her nose Saturday reduces the risk of infection but does not allow Giffords to talk, Dr. Randall S. Friese, associate medical director of the hospital, told reporters.

Friese said Giffords was showing little interaction with others, and the new breathing and feeding tubes in her throat do not allow air to pass her vocal chords.

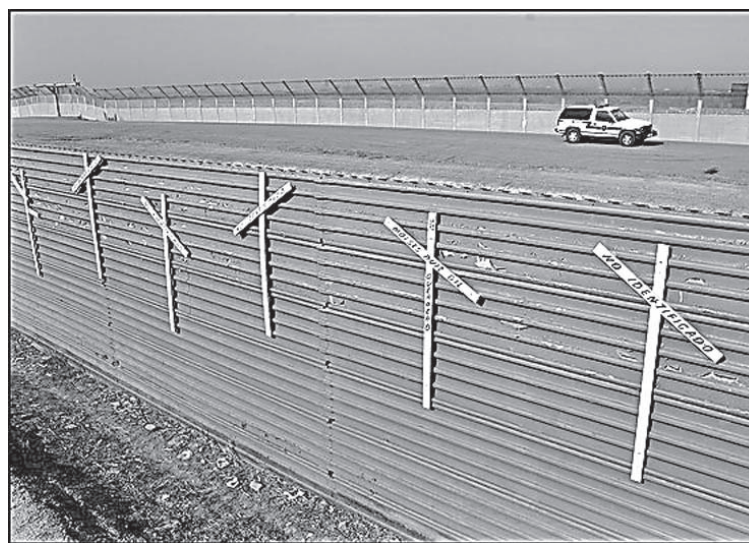
"She cannot vocalize," Friese said.

During the surgery on Giffords' eye, doctors removed bone fragments that were protruding into the socket and repairing the roof with metal mesh.

Doctors believe both of Giffords' eyes are functioning and have previously said she was tracking objects with both eyes. □



Parents of dead Mexican teenager sue U.S. government



SAN ANTONIO, Tex. — The parents of a Mexican teenager allegedly killed last year by a bullet fired by a U.S. Border Patrol agent across the Rio Grande river, on Monday sued the U.S. government for \$25 million. The U.S. Border Patrol says Sergio Hernandez Guereca, 15, was pelting U.S. agents with rocks from the Mexican side of the Rio Grande river last June when Border Patrol

agents on the U.S. side shot him to death.

But Bob Hilliard, attorney for the Mexican family, said today that the boy was the victim of "brutality" on the part of the federal agents, and was "shot in cold blood." "We have seen brutality captured on video tape that stuns us as a country, when we think that law enforcement are trained and should not do that," Hilliard

said.

The incident was videotaped by several individuals and was broadcast on the Spanish-language Univision television network, and posted on the internet. It has come to represent the lawless nature of the violence along the Texas Mexico border. It is unclear from the grainy cell phone video whether the boy was throwing rocks at the time.

"Part of this lawsuit seeks to require the government to turn over the border camera video and see it and get a better look at it," he said.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in El Paso, names the Department of Homeland Security, The U.S. Border Patrol, the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and an "unnamed agent" of the U.S. Border Patrol as defendants.

"The parents are hopeful that the main thing they get is an accounting of the Border Patrol's conduct," Hilliard said, adding he is hoping that criminal charges will be filed against the agent.

The case has widened a gulf between the Border Patrol and activist groups who say the U.S. uses a heavy hand in dealing with issues regarding immigration and human smuggling.

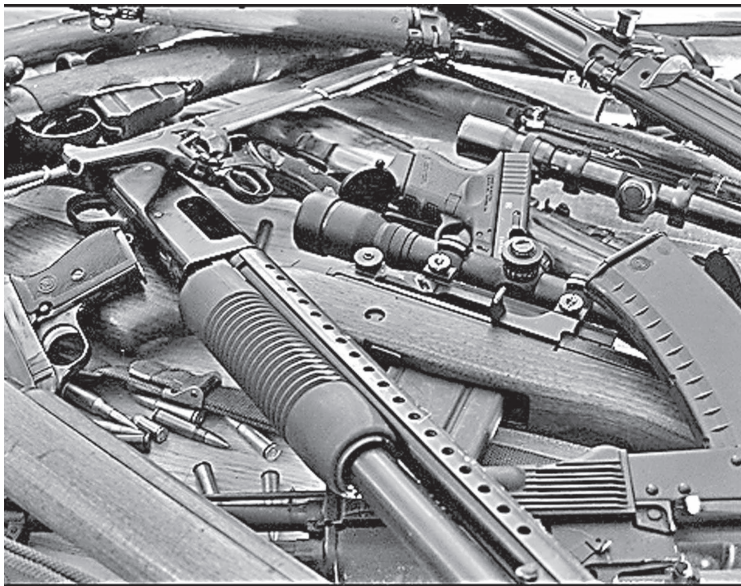
The FBI has claimed that Hernandez was a known immigrant smuggler who had been pressed into service by smuggling gangs taking advantage of his youth. They said that Hernandez guided illegal immigrants into the United States, and they have said that he was attacking the border agents with rocks at the time.

"It was clear from the witness statements early on that something had happened

that should not have happened," Hilliard said. "The U.S. Attorney General, Eric Holder, actually said an investigation into this young man's civil rights is ongoing. This is a serious international incident."

Hilliard said that since the gunman was a U.S. federal agent firing from U.S. soil, and the bullet traveled into another country and killed a person, jurisdiction will also be a major issue in this case. The shooting has been condemned by Mexico's president Felipe Calderon and has been the cause of demonstrations in Juarez, which is located across the river from El Paso and is one of the most violent cities in the world due to the ongoing war between powerful smuggling and drug gangs. The agent who shot Hernandez has never been identified. □

Wisconsin expected to expand gun owner rights



MILWAUKEE – Wisconsin, that prohibits citizens from one of two states in the nation carrying a concealed weapon,

is expected to reverse this law during the upcoming state legislative session despite shootings in Arizona that highlighted lax U.S. gun laws. Only Illinois and Wisconsin forbid carrying concealed weapons. A Republican was elected governor and Republicans won majorities in both houses of the Wisconsin legislature in November, bringing many more supporters of gun rights to the state government.

“You’re going to see a concealed carry bill pass the Legislature, I have no doubt,” said Chris Danou, a

Democratic legislator from Trempealeau, Wisconsin. “The question is what kind of bill it’s going to be.”

Guns are a big part of Wisconsin culture as hunting is popular in the state, which has vast areas of forest and agricultural land. But it has traditionally restricted gun ownership and carrying weapons.

Twice in recent years the Wisconsin legislature passed a law allowing concealed carry but Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle vetoed it. Doyle left office this month and was succeeded by Republican

Scott Walker.

Walker said last week that he expects a concealed carry bill to emerge as early as spring, after the legislature tackles more pressing issues such as job growth and the budget, and that he will sign the bill.

“It’s definitely a pro-gun Legislature,” said Nik Clark, president of Wisconsin Carry, a two-year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and expanding gun rights.

That’s troubling to Jeri Bonavia, executive director of Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort, which opposes any legislation to allow concealed carry on the grounds it will lead to increased danger for individuals and the public.

“We really don’t believe that more people carrying guns in public is beneficial in any way,” she said. “In fact, we think it’s harmful.”

A college dropout opened fire on a crowd gathered for an event by Rep. Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson, Arizona on January 8, killing six people and wounding 13 including Giffords.

The shooting has raised questions about permissive U.S. guns laws. Arizona has a concealed weapon law allowing anyone with a gun to carry it openly without a special permit. □

Federal government spends millions on hoop houses

MINNEAPOLIS – The federal government has spent millions of dollars to help farmers nationwide buy greenhouse-like structures called high tunnels that can add valuable weeks and even months to their growing seasons by protecting produce from chilly temperatures.

About \$13 million has gone to more than 2,400 farmers in 43 states to help pay for the low-tech tunnels that look like a cross between Quonset huts and conventional greenhouses. The structures, also known as hoop houses, have been particularly beneficial in the north, where they allow farmers to plant as much as four weeks early and keep growing later in the fall.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture touts the tunnels as environmentally friendly and a way to help meet the demand for local and sustainable produce. Experts say high tunnels employ efficient drip irrigation systems and reduce pest problems, diseases and fertilizer costs.

One of the biggest advocates is Terry Nennich, an extension educator at the University of Minnesota-Crookston, who first

learned of them on a 1999 trip to Normandy in northern France. Few U.S. farmers were using high tunnels then, he said.

The French are “kind of light years ahead of us,” Nennich said. “People there are more concerned about their food and pesticides and quality and freshness. Their climate isn’t as severe in the wintertime but they don’t have a lot of heat up there in the summer.”

High tunnels typically consist of a series of hoops covered with plastic that can be rolled up on the sides to allow air circulation. Prices vary by size, but they often cost just a few thousand dollars. The USDA does not keep statistics on their use or how much produce is grown in them.

They have been a “game changer” for Earl Snell, who grows organic heirloom tomatoes in two tunnels near Skipperville in southeastern Alabama.

Snell said he now can grow the tomatoes year-round and compete with southern Florida farmers, who usually produce most of the nation’s winter tomatoes. An usual, severe freeze in Florida this year has damaged crops and pushed up produce prices.

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Obamas volunteer at school to celebrate King holiday

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama volunteered at a local school on Monday to mark the Martin Luther King Day holiday, testing his talents as a painter while emphasizing the importance of community service in America. Obama, who was joined by his wife, Michelle, and their two daughters, helped out at a middle school, where volunteers were painting "dancing fruit" on the cafeteria walls to encourage healthy eating habits. Obama painted an apple that looked like a cartoon character flexing its muscles. He said the event helped remind people about true U.S. values after the recent shooting in Arizona that killed six people and wounded 13, including a U.S. congresswoman. "After a painful week where so many of us

were focused on tragedy, it's good for us to remind ourselves what this country is all about," Obama told reporters in brief remarks at the school. "This kind of service project is what's best in us and we're thrilled with everybody who is participating." Volunteers serenaded the first lady with a version of "Happy Birthday" after she entered the cafeteria. Mrs. Obama, who turned 47 on Monday, seemed touched but embarrassed by the song. "All right let's get to work. This is embarrassing," she said. The first lady has made fighting childhood obesity one of her signature issues since coming to the White House. □



WASHINGTON - There's new hope for an overlooked epidemic: Two powerful drugs are nearing the market that promise to help cure many more people of liver-attacking hepatitis C even though most who have the simmering infection don't know it yet. Surprisingly, two-thirds of hepatitis C sufferers are thought to be baby boomers who've harbored since their younger, perhaps wilder, years a virus that can take two or three decades to do its damage. What could be a treatment revolution is spurring the government to consider if it's time to start screening aging baby boomers for hepatitis C, just like they get various cancer checks. "We're entering a whole new

era of therapy," says Dr. John Ward, hepatitis chief at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "We really want to begin that clarion call for action for this population who's at risk." Today's two-drug treatment for hepatitis C cures only about 40 percent of people with the most common variety of the virus, and causes some grueling side effects. Now major studies show that adding

New hope for hepatitis C, an often hidden disease

a new drug either Vertex Pharmaceuticals' telaprevir or Merck & Co.'s boceprevir can boost those cure rates as high as 75 percent. And they allow some people to cut treatment time in half, to six months, thus lessening how long they must deal with those side effects. If the Food and Drug Administration approves the drugs a decision widely expected this summer they would be the first that work by directly targeting the hepatitis C virus. Specialists draw comparisons to the early 1990s when potent combination therapies emerged to treat AIDS. Many recently diagnosed patients are postponing therapy to await these new drug cocktails in hopes of a better

chance at a faster cure, says Dr. Paul Pockros, hepatology chief at the Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, Calif., who helped test telaprevir. However, the bigger impact could come if more people get tested for hepatitis C, a blood-borne virus. It's often stigmatized as a risk only to people who inject illegal drugs. But the virus could have begun festering from a blood transfusion before 1992, when testing of the blood supply began. Lapses in infection control in health facilities still occasionally expose people today. So could even a one-time experiment with drugs way back in college, something doctors are reluctant to ask a now middle-aged, button-downed patient to reveal, says Ward.

"It cuts across every segment of society," adds Dr. Arun Sanyal of Virginia Commonwealth University, past president of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. "I can tell you our hepatitis C treatment clinic is a great social equalizer." About 3.2 million Americans, and 170 million people worldwide, have chronic hepatitis C. In the U.S., new infections have dropped dramatically although the disease's toll is rising as people infected decades earlier reach ages where their livers start showing damage. Hepatitis C already is a leading cause of liver transplants, and it kills about 12,000 U.S. patients a year, a number expected to triple within 20 years. □

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Continued from Page A4

"I got some nice looking tomatoes right now. And of course everything is up, so we're hitting the market just perfect here," Snell said.

To promote high tunnels, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service started a three-year pilot program through its "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" initiative. It provided \$13

million in the fiscal year that ended last Sept. 30, and more money is available this year. USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan said the program supports the agency's mission in helping small- and mid-sized farms thrive and in encouraging sound conservation practices. She said interested farmers should contact their local NRCS offices.

"It really is a great opportunity for farmers who want to extend their season and add some money to their bottom line," Merrigan said.

Tomatoes are probably the most profitable high tunnel crop, but cucumbers and peppers also generate good return, said Karl Foord, a University of Minnesota extension educator in Farmington. Farmers and researchers nationwide also use high tunnels for

strawberries, raspberries, melons, salad greens, onions, sweet corn, ginger and flowers.

Mark Boen just added his eighth high tunnel at his farm near Fergus Falls in northwestern Minnesota, where he describes the weather as "winter, winter, winter." He plans to use his newest tunnel to start growing romaine lettuce far earlier in the spring than he could otherwise. He said the tunnels have increased his tomato production, and the fruit is ready at least a month earlier than normal. Boen can harvest cucumbers almost two months early.

"The season is so short that high tunnels really make a difference," he said.

His high tunnels are relatively large at 30 feet by 96 feet. Each of the four he uses for tomatoes hold about 450

plants, which he said yield an average of about 50 pounds per plant per season. That adds up to about 22,000 pounds per tunnel and a nice income. He sells most of his produce directly to consumers. Snell's primary crops were peanuts and watermelons before he built his high tunnels last winter.

His hold about 400 tomato plants each, and he sells to restaurants, grocers and consumers. He said he and his wife are so pleased they plan to add three more.

While the federal program typically covers about half of the cost of a high tunnel, Snell, who is African-American, qualified under a provision for "historically underserved producers" that picks up 75 percent to 90 percent.

"I couldn't have done it without them. It's saved us," Snell said. □

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Canada toughens mortgage rules again, eyes debt

TORONTO/OTTAWA — Canada moved on Monday to tighten its mortgage rules for the second time in less than a year, citing the need to prevent the kind of housing market problems that led other countries into financial crisis.

The new rules, designed to ensure Canadians don't take on more debt than they can handle, took aim at mortgage amortization, refinancing and the use of lines of credit secured by homes. Many U.S. homeowners borrowed against the rising value of their houses and refinanced mortgages to fund spending in the run-up to the global recession.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, who warned that Canadian interest rates were bound to go up, said the new measures would "have some moderating effect on the (housing) market."

"The main reason we're taking the action is for the longer term, that we avoid even the beginning of the development of the kinds of issues that have happened in some other countries, that have been very damaging to families," Flaherty said.

Canada's housing market avoided the

meltdowns seen in countries like the United States, Britain and Ireland during the global recession. Resale prices dropped in 2008, then rebounded sharply the following year thanks to low mortgage rates that made it easier for customers to borrow money.

This sparked a rise in borrowing that has alarmed some policymakers. Recent data from Statistics Canada shows Canadian household debt has risen to a record C\$6.1 trillion, or 148 percent of disposable income.

Under the new rules, set to take effect this spring, Ottawa will:

Reduce the maximum amortization period to 30 years from 35 years for new government-backed insured mortgages with loan-to-value ratios of more than 80 percent

Lower the maximum amount people can borrow in refinancing their mortgages to 85 percent from 90 percent of the value of their homes

Withdraw government insurance backing on lines of credit secured by homes, such as home equity lines of credit. □

U.S. - CHINA

Continued from Front Page

Most important bilateral relationship. In fact, the US-China relationship, which the Obama administration regularly calls the most important bilateral relationship on the globe in this century, needs work. The two countries are increasingly wrapped into a security dilemma, in which each side both at high government levels and at popular levels sees actions taken by the other as dangerous to its own future, and reacts with countermeasures that simply deepen the other side's suspicions about its intentions. Strident voices in each nation proclaim the heightened dangers presented by the other. This is especially true in the fragile and hypersensitive military sector, but it is mirrored in the looming tensions on the economic and commercial fronts in spite of the huge and often mutually beneficial ties linking the American and Chinese economies.

Thirty years ago, when the US and China were just getting acquainted after their bitter cold war divorce, pundits noted that the relationship was "trip driven." A trip by the US or Chinese president was an "action-forcing event," capable of galvanizing sluggish bureaucracies and overcoming internal paralysis arising from interest-group conflicts.

That's still true, but to a lesser extent. The range of US-

China engagements is now so broad, the channels of official communication so numerous, and the maintenance of routine contacts so regular that no presidential visit in either direction can write a new script on an empty blackboard. Moreover, anyone who has ever watched at close range the advance work that precedes a Chinese or US president state visit knows that, a week before game time, the scripts are mostly set in stone. Those staffing the visitor, particularly when the traveler is from China, are as much concerned with how their man will look to the home audience as they are with either the optics in the host country or, for that matter, the substantive content of any agreements the two leaders reach.

pagebreak

A spiral of mistrust That is perhaps the biggest concern surrounding the upcoming visit. The US-China relationship is replete with unhealthy tendencies that neither public opinion nor routine bureaucratic administration seems able to address. If the two presidents can't at least begin to unwind the self-perpetuating spiral leading toward ever-deeper mutual strategic mistrust, bigger trouble awaits.

They could start this week by: Pledging themselves to a focused effort aimed at slowing that spiral of mistrust and then, over time, rebuilding the foundations of mutual confidence. There is no time

to lose on this front, whether in the national security sector or the economic arena. A good first step might be a common commitment to facing down the dangers of cyberwar, whose very mystery increasingly lends an element of paranoia to popular views of the two countries'™ future relations.

Boldly reaffirming Sino-American recognition of the two countries' distinctive responsibilities in the struggle to preserve life on earth through the closest possible cooperation on energy and climate change issues. No two countries matter more than the US and China in this regard, but the two are divided by profoundly different perspectives.

Getting behind a major expansion of people-to-people engagements between Chinese and Americans, a realm whose importance is far greater than generally recognized in high policy circles. Expanded journalism and media activities, cultural exchanges in the fine arts, music, literature and especially education, should be a high priority. Mr. Obama has made a helpful start on this with his "100,000 Strong" initiative aimed at sending more Americans to China for study, but there is much more to do.

Forcefully reminding the American and Chinese people of the widespread benefits to each economy that trade and engagement has brought.



They should also define some solid commitments to "rebalancing" both economies in ways that will ultimately bring greater stability to this all-important bilateral economic relationship. American observers hoping for Hu to announce a fixed-percentage change in the value of China's currency against the dollar will be disappointed, but a strong commitment to put the US-China economic juggernaut on more-stable footing will do more for American (and Chinese) jobs than any spike in the yuan.

Hard work ahead None of this will come easily, or endure effortlessly once Hu leaves for home. Unmet pledges are likely to cause more damage than no pledges at all; given US political gridlock, in particular, it remains to be seen what commitments the White House will be able to agree to. (China is way ahead of the US on government action to combat global warming, for example.) On the Chinese

side, a president now in the final years of a decade-long tenure, his country nearing a change of leadership and a new economic Five Year Plan may be more interested in avoiding surprises than in energetically reversing toxic tendencies in US-China relations.

Hu's visit to Washington in 2006 had its rough spots: There was arm-wrestling over how many guns would salute, and over whether there would be a full-dress state dinner or something less formal; a White House announcer proclaimed the playing of the anthem of China's nemesis, the Republic of China on Taiwan, instead of that of Hu's People's Republic of China. Not for nothing do diligent advance teams try to cover all bases before the boss arrives.

But the US and China need more, now, than perfect execution of a ceremonial visit. It's a tall order, but the American and Chinese presidents can do better. Certainly, the rest of the world hopes they can. □

Video Game 'Addiction' Tied to Depression, Anxiety in Kids

Video game addiction among children and teens may lead to the development of psychological disorders such as depression, researchers say. The new study found that children who are more likely to become addicted to video games (which the researchers call "pathological" video gaming) are those who spend a lot of hours playing these games, have trouble fitting in with other kids and are more impulsive than children who aren't addicted. Once addicted to video games, children were more likely to

become depressed, anxious or have other social phobias. Not surprisingly, children who were hooked on video games also saw their school performance suffer.

"What we've known from other studies is that video gaming addiction looks similar to other addictions. But what wasn't clear was what comes before what. Gaming might be a secondary problem.

It might be that kids who are socially awkward, who aren't doing well in school, get depressed and then lose themselves into games. We

haven't really known if gaming is important by itself, or what puts kids at risk for becoming addicted," said Douglas A. Gentile, an associate professor of psychology at Iowa State University in Ames.

Not only did the study reveal risk factors for pathological gaming, "the real surprise came from looking at the outcomes, because we had assumed depression might be the real problem," explained Gentile.

"But we found that in kids who started gaming pathologically, depression and anxiety got



worse. And, when they stopped gaming, the depression lifted. It may be that these disorders [co-exist], but games seem to make the problem worse." Results of the study were released online and will be published in the February issue of Pediatrics.

The study included 3,034 children and teens from Singapore; 743 were in 3rd grade, 711 in 4th grade, 916 in 7th grade and 664 in 8th grade. The children came from six primary schools and six secondary schools. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba Unveils New Palm Beach Casino, Aruba in Time for New Year

PALM BEACH - \$2 Million Renovation Includes Enhanced Games, Décor, Bar & Entertainment
Palm Beach, Aruba – The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba, one of the premier gaming destinations on the island for locals and visitors alike, unveils The Palm Beach Casino, Aruba, following a \$2 million renovation and rebranding investment. With upgrades ranging from décor and games to cocktail menus and live entertainment, the casino is ready to welcome players in time for 2011.

“Aruba is known and loved not only for its warm, sunny weather and beautiful beaches, but also for the variety of activities, such as gaming, it offers,” said Richard Roy, general manager, The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba. “Our goal with the casino revamp is to further enhance guests’ experience and to make our facilities the first choice among Arubans and those who visit the island.”

Highlights of the new Palm Beach Casino, Aruba include 300 high-tech slot machines, five Hyperlink machines, Roulette, Craps and an array of card games such as Black Jack, Three Card Stud, Let it Ride and Caribbean Poker. The new carpeting and décor elements evoke the surrounding Caribbean scenery with a light and airy feel. □

DAVID DODWELL Named Caribbean Hotelier of the Year,

Bermuda & Nevis hotel owner honored at marketplace 2011



The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) and Ypartnership named David Dodwell, owner Nisbet Plantation Beach Club in Nevis and The Reefs Hotel & Club in Bermuda, “Caribbean Hotelier of the Year.” Pictured (l-r) Peter C. Yesawich, chairman and CEO, Ypartnership; Dodwell; Josef Forstmayr, president of CHTA; and Alec Sanguinetti, director general and CEO, CHTA.

MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA – David Dodwell, owner of two widely acclaimed resorts, The Reefs Hotel & Club in Bermuda and Nisbet Plantation Beach Club on Nevis, has been recognized as the 2010 “Caribbean Hotelier of the Year.” Dodwell was honored with the award before an international audience of hospitality and tourism industry leaders at Caribbean Marketplace 2011, hosted at the new Montego Bay Convention Centre in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The Caribbean Hotelier of the Year Award is co-sponsored by the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) and partnership.

With a prestigious industry career spanning more than four decades, Dodwell joins the ranks of preeminent hotel and resort executives as the 33rd recipient of the Caribbean Hotelier of the Year – the highest professional honor bestowed by CHTA.

Presented annually, this esteemed award recognizes an outstanding hotelier in the Caribbean region for demonstrating excellence in all areas of hotel and resort operations, as well as a commitment to the training and development of staff, to the community, and to sound environmental practices. The honor also acknowledges each recipient’s active role in both national and regional issues affecting Caribbean tourism. A native Bermudian and graduate of the prestigious Cornell University School of Hotel Administration, Dodwell is a former Minister of Tourism for Bermuda, and once served as president of the Bermuda Hotel Association where he was also previously honored as Bermuda Hotelier of the Year.

He has always been committed to serving his local community – both in Nevis and Bermuda. He is a Member of the Resort Committee of the American

Hospitality & Lodging Association, and has served many other leadership roles. Dodwell has been at the helm of The Reefs in Bermuda, which includes 19 luxury two- and three-bedroom beachfront suites, for nearly 40 years and at Nisbet Plantation for more than 20 years. In 1999, Nisbet Plantation established a local elementary school “adoption” program, stocking library shelves

with children’s books and computers, while also encouraging school supply donations from resort guests. As a result, children are now reading at a level two grades higher than before the program began. Nisbet Plantation’s Chef also mentored Nevis high school students as part of the 2010 St. Kitts & Nevis Hotel and Tourism Association’s Project Future Chef program. Under his leadership, the 36-room Nisbet Plantation Beach Club has grown to be one of the Caribbean’s foremost resorts, renowned internationally for its exceptional service and guest satisfaction. Dodwell’s innovative training and team-building initiatives have resulted in exceptional loyalty among staff and remarkable guest return rates.

In 2010, Nisbet Plantation Beach Club was ranked the #1 Hotel in the Caribbean, Bermuda and the Bahamas by Travel + Leisure magazine’s World’s Best Awards, named among Conde Nast Traveler’s Gold List of the World’s Best Places to Stay and The Reefs was named the #1 Hotel in the Atlantic in the Conde Nast Traveler Readers’ Choice Awards.

Continued on Page A11



“Caribbean Hotelier of the Year” David Dodwell, owner Nisbet Plantation Beach Club in Nevis and The Reefs Hotel & Club in Bermuda, is pictured (l-r) with his wife Margarita, daughter Stephanie and son David, Jr.

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only with fresh and honest products! Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as they have a super kids menu, so they can enjoy their dinner as much as you

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square are open until eleven. See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

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Exchange of vows at the Occidental Grand **John & Marie say "I do" as the sun sets**

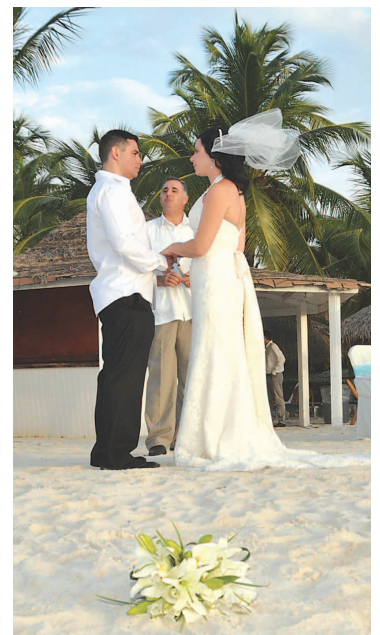
PALM BEACH – Peter & Debra Tighe from New York decided to have a destination wedding at the Occidental Grand Resort last week, and then enjoy their honeymoon at the resort. The couple exchanged their vows of love, marriage and forever



with Rev. Robert Gibson at the waters edge just as the sun gently set into the Caribbean Sea. The Tighe's culminated their ceremony on the beach with a champagne toast and a romantic dinner with their

toes in the sand by the sea. The intimate ceremony was coordinated by Kimberley Ras-Dammerman, the Wedding Coordinator of the Occidental Grand Resort. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~



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TOP 10 REASONS TO STAY AT DIVI & TAMARIJN ARUBA ALL INCLUSIVES

**** From the Spectacular Beach to the Wealth of Activities and Dining Options, These Two Properties Offer Vacationers All They Could Want and More! ****

ORANJESTAD, ARUBA – When planning a vacation, most travelers first pick where they want to go, then decide on a hotel or resort that provides the most for their money. For anyone visiting the Caribbean, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusives are the natural choice! To learn why, read these Top Ten Reasons to choose Divi Aruba All Inclusive & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive for vacation.

Beach – By far the biggest reason why travelers visit the Caribbean, the beach at Divi & Tamarijn Aruba is among the finest anywhere. With powder-soft sand stretching for over a mile between the two properties, guests are never far from the uncrowded beach when staying at these two resorts. It's the ideal spot for strolling hand in hand with your partner, watching a sunset over the water, soaking

up the sun or enjoying one of the properties' many water sports and beach activities.

Two All-Inclusive Resorts for the Price of One – Gaining popularity for added simplicity and value, all stays at Divi & Tamarijn Aruba are always all inclusive. For just one price, travelers can eat, drink and enjoy all the complimentary activities available without ever having to worry about pulling out their wallets. Of course, guests who stay at either property have full use of the facilities, services and amenities of the other, located just steps away, so guests are essentially getting the convenience of two resorts for the price of one!

Dining Options – For those who want to experience a variety of cuisines in their travels, Divi & Tamarijn

Aruba offer plenty of options for daily meals, snacks and beverages. Nine dining outlets serve Italian, Continental, Asian-Fusion and more, so guests can eat at just their favorite venues or try them all. Atmospheres range from casual to elegant, and many of the properties' dining establishments have open-air seating as well as spectacular ocean views for the ultimate beachside meal.

Activities – Want to try scaling a rock climbing wall right on the beach? Or perhaps take part in a game of beach volleyball? Maybe a salsa lesson or bike tour would be preferable. From Papiamento (the local Aruban dialect) lessons or browsing the craft market to sunfish sailing, windsurfing, snorkeling, kayaking or other non-motorized water sports, Divi & Tamarijn Aruba have numerous activities suited for all ages and preferences.

Accommodations – Breathe in the ocean air while looking out over the beach or landscaped property, as each guestroom at Divi & Tamarijn Aruba has its own spacious patio or balcony. At Tamarijn Aruba, all rooms are oceanfront, looking right out over the beach. Guests staying at Divi Aruba can select from beachside, oceanview, oceanfront or, for a more secluded option, gardenview rooms.

Three Large Freshwater Swimming Pools – Relaxing by the pool is a great way to spend an afternoon, and with a total of three freshwater swimming pools at Divi & Tamarijn Aruba there's always enough space by the pool's edge. Both properties also have a poolside bar & grill, so it's easy to grab a snack, meal or cool beverage in between dips in the water. In addition,

the Divi Aruba's pool deck has just been renovated and now features modern seating areas providing comfort and style.

Choice of Packages – To bring even more value to guests, Divi & Tamarijn Aruba offer several packages year-round. Popular among parents traveling with school-age children, the Family Package allows up to 2 kids up to age 17 who are sharing a room with their parents to stay, play and eat entirely free (use of the children's camp is also included). For newlyweds, the Honeymoon Package includes a complimentary room upgrade, candlelight dinner for two, bottle of champagne and more for an ideal romantic escape.

Golf and Spa Options – For guests who want an all inclusive beachfront stay yet also want to play a few rounds of golf, Divi & Tamarijn Aruba provides the perfect solution! Guests of the properties have access to the 9-hole The Links at Divi Aruba golf course right across the street. Further, guests receive discounted greens fees, tee time priority and more. Meanwhile, a non-golfing spouse can indulge in a pedicure, massage or other treatment at the Indulgence by the Sea spa, located at the Divi Aruba.

Nightly Entertainment – While Latin dance shows, limbo lines, jazz nights, salsa dance classes and Mystic shows with fire-eating are usually the types of night time fun found in Aruba's night spots, guests at the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba don't ever have to leave the properties to find great evening entertainment. With a different theme night or party each night of the week, there's plenty of variety to keep

guests coming back for more.

Friendly, Well-Trained Staff – Since Aruba is known as "One Happy Island," it's no surprise to find that smiles are equally infectious at Divi & Tamarijn Aruba. The properties pride themselves on their cheerful and friendly staff, who are all well-trained hospitality professionals. No matter what the question or need, staff members are always eager and available to assist guests.

Located just thirty minutes from the airport and five minutes from Aruba's capital city, Oranjestad, the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba resorts are set on beautiful Druif Beach, with shops and the Alhambra Casino nearby. Guests staying at either the AAA 3-Diamond Divi Aruba or the adjacent, oceanfront Tamarijn Aruba have use of all facilities and services of both properties. All stays at the Divi & Tamarijn Aruba include all meals and snacks at a choice of nine dining options, unlimited beverages at seven bars, the use of three freshwater pools, a wide range of activities including non-motorized water sports and nightly entertainment and offer a variety of packages. In addition, all guests may use the well-equipped Divi Winds Sports Center, which features a 30-foot outdoor rock climbing wall on the beach. All guestrooms now have flat screen TVs as well as brand new mattresses and bedding with super-soft pillow tops, duvets and extra pillows. Honeymoon, Golf, Family and Wedding Packages are available. For reservations and more information about Divi & Tamarijn Aruba, contact your travel professional or 1-800-554-2008, 207-594-7888 or visit the resorts' websites at www.diviaruba.com or www.tamarijnaruba.com. □

DAVID DODWELL

Continued from Page A8

Dodwell's proactive role in the Nevis community also extends to environmental stewardship. Numerous eco-initiatives helped Nisbet Plantation achieve the rigorous requirements for Green Globe 21 certification by Green Globe International.

In October 2007, Nisbet Plantation constructed an artificial reef to provide a habitat for sea life, create a calmer swimming area for guests, and save numerous palm trees by preventing beach erosion. As a result, more than 15 feet of beach has reappeared. Other initiatives include the planting of a coconut palm for every wedding held at the resort, an organized Hands-on Earth Day beach cleanup, and both water and energy recycling conservation efforts. Sustainable cuisine spotlighting local fish, produce and even local St. Kitts and Nevis rum are staples in the Plantation's dining venues.

About The Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association

The Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association (CHTA) facilitates the full potential of the Caribbean hotel and tourism industry by serving members' needs and building partnerships in a socially responsible and sustainable manner. CHTA was founded in 1962; it is the voice of the Caribbean hospitality industry for the development of the region in the highly competitive and sophisticated environment of international tourism. Today, tourism is widely recognized as a pivotal industry in the economy of the region – and CHTA functions as the common denominator for this industry in a region of diverse nationalities, languages and styles, identifying mutual problems and marshalling the resources of the active and allied members to devise solutions. CHTA represents all facets of the hospitality industry with more than 725 member hotels and 525 allied members. □



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HUMAN HINTS

Your Life Is Always Perfect For You

If we create every aspect of our own lives, then our lives are always perfect. Why would our infinite expanded self create anything that is not perfect for us? It would not, because our expanded self is infinite. The Infinite does not make mistakes.

Our expanded self creates our lives exactly perfectly in every moment. We as our limited selves here in the physical illusion don't think its perfect because we place judgment on it. When we want a situation to change, we're saying that we know better than our expanded selves.

We think we know what will make us happy, but we don't. We think we'll be fulfilled by the physical illusion, and deep inside, we also know that True Joy lies beyond the illusion. We find true joy when we stop trying to change our lives and surrender to whatever our expanded self has in store for us in this full-immersion movie.

When we surrender to our situation and maintain our responsibilities, we minimize possible upheaval. If we let our responsibilities go, we create more drama in our lives. The end result is the same. You can minimize the intensity of the path by staying responsible and respectful in the illusion.

Approach your life as if it is always exactly perfect for you, because it is. Your expanded self would create nothing less than the exactly perfect journey for you.

Until Tomorrow.

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you chose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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Why America's credit rating might be cut, and why it matters

New York – Moody's and S&P have warned that the U.S. is in danger of losing its AAA credit rating. How could that happen, and what would it mean?

Two major credit-rating firms have warned that the U.S. is at risk of losing its AAA rating. Analysts at Moody's and Standard & Poor said the U.S. credit rating currently at the highest possible level could be downgraded if the country continues on its present course. The U.S. national debt is around \$14 trillion and rising, and the government must pay over \$200 billion a year just to service it. The credit agencies worry that the U.S. is not doing enough to shrink its debt levels. The consequences of a downgrade could devastate the U.S. economy. Is this really a possibility, and should we be worried?

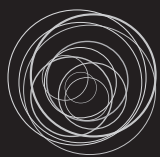
Something must be done to avert a crisis: If our credit score were downgraded, says Logan Penza at The Moderate Voice, the result would be a "disastrous spiral of the same type that consumed Greece." The cost of borrowing would surge, the dollar would plummet, and it would end in a "remarkably rapid collapse of the country's fiscal structure." The U.S. government must "get serious" about spending cuts and

raising revenue. "The clock is ticking." "Nothing to see here?"

The ratings agencies would never do it would they? It's true, says Katie Martin in The Wall Street Journal, that the U.S. losing its AAA credit rating would be a global financial disaster. But it's too early to panic just yet. "We have heard these warnings from ratings agencies before." The market knows that the U.S. is acting to boost growth. And besides, "few really believe that the ratings agencies would pull the trigger," knowing the catastrophe it would unleash.

"Shrugging off U.S. ratings risks for now" We should ignore these know-nothing agencies: Why are we taking these agencies seriously at all? asks Bill Saporito in Time. After all, they're the ones who put the AAA stamp on subprime mortgage-backed derivatives "like they would Cheese Whiz to crackers," and then had the temerity to argue that they couldn't be held responsible for their opinions. "These are the people who helped make the financial meltdown possible. What, exactly, do they know?" "Is it time to stop listening to the ratings agencies?" ☐





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'Baby Doc' adds new twist to Haiti's latest woes

JACOB KUSHNER
JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier ensconced himself Monday in a high-end hotel following his surprise return to a country deep in crisis, leaving many to wonder if the once-feared strongman will prompt renewed conflict in the midst of a political stalemate.

Duvalier met with allies inside the hotel in the hills above downtown Port-au-Prince and spoke publicly only through emissaries, who gave vague explanations for his sudden and mysterious appearance — nearly 25 years after he was forced into exile by a popular uprising against his brutal regime.

Henry Robert Sterlin, a former ambassador who said he was speaking on behalf of Duvalier, portrayed the 59-year-old former “president for life,” as merely a concerned elder statesman who wanted to see the effects of the devastating Jan. 12, 2010, earthquake on his homeland.

“He was deeply hurt in his soul after the earthquake,” Sterlin said. “He wanted to come back to see how is the actual Haitian situation of the people and the country.”

Duvalier — who assumed power in 1971 at age 19 following the death of his father, Francois “Papa Doc” Duvalier — still has some support in Haiti and millions are too young to remember life under his dictatorship. But his abrupt return Sunday still sent shock waves through the country, with some fearing that his presence will bring



Haiti's former dictator Jean-Claude “Baby Doc” Duvalier waves to the press from a hotel balcony in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday Jan. 17, 2011. Duvalier ensconced himself Monday in a high-end hotel following his surprise return to a country deep in crisis, leaving many to wonder if the once-feared strongman will complicate a political stalemate or prompt renewed conflict.

Associated Press

back the extreme polarization, and political violence, of the past.

“Part of what he does by getting back into Haiti is bring back the old battle lines,” said Jocelyn McCalla, a political analyst and former director of the National Coalition for Haitian Rights. “People are going to start talking about being pro- or anti-Duvalier ... It intensifies the instability.” State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said in a Twitter post that the U.S. was surprised by the timing of Duvalier’s visit. “It adds unpredictability at an uncertain time in Haiti’s election process.”

His return comes as Haiti struggles to work through a dire political crisis following the problematic Nov. 28 first-round presidential election, as well as a cholera epidemic and a troubled recovery from an earthquake.

Three candidates want to go on to a second round meant for two. The Organization of American States sent in a team of experts to resolve the deadlock, recommending that Preval’s candidate be excluded — and the arrival of Duvalier has at least briefly overshadowed speculation about how the government might respond. OAS Assistant Secretary General Albert Ramdin said Monday that the organization has “noted with interest the return of Mr. Duvalier to Haiti — and the timing.”

State Department spokesman Mark Toner said Washington’s focus “continues to be a resolution of Haiti’s elections crisis that reflects the will of the Haitian people and that ensures reconstruction and humanitarian efforts proceed unabated.”

President Rene Preval, a

former anti-Duvalier activist, made no immediate public statements on the former dictator’s re-emergence, though he told reporters in 2007 that Duvalier would face justice for the deaths of thousands of people and the theft of millions of dollars if he returned.

Human rights groups urged Haiti to prosecute Duvalier for widespread abuses.

Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive said he is aware of the accusations but that an arrest is unlikely anytime soon. “We want to be a government that respects the law and to arrest somebody you have to a judiciary process,” he said.

At the moment, at least, there are no pending charges against the former dictator. In fact, National Police for a time guarded him at the upscale Hotel Karibe before withdrawing, leaving security

to hotel guards and a few U.N. peacekeepers stationed outside.

The government of France, where Duvalier has spent most of his exile, said it had no advance notice of the trip.

“We were never informed” of his departure, French Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernard Valero told The Associated Press.

Bobby Duval, a former soccer star who was starved and tortured during the 17 months he was held without charge by Duvalier in the notorious Fort Dimanche, was outraged that Haitian authorities didn’t immediately arrest the former dictator. He recalls seeing people beaten, tortured and executed by being clubbed in the back of the neck.

“He is a murderer and a thief,” said Duval, who now runs an athletic training school for children. “A country that has no memory will repeat its same mistakes. I thought we were past that but I guess not since he hasn’t been arrested yet.”

Duvalier formed part of a father-and-son dynasty that presided over one of the darkest chapters in Haitian history, a period when thuggish government secret police force known as the Tonton Macoute stifled any dissent, torturing and killing opponents.

He came back on an Air France jet in a jacket and tie to hugs from supporters, waving to a crowd of about 200 as he climbed in an SUV and headed to a hotel with Veronique Roy, his longtime companion.

Later, Duvalier appeared on a balcony of the Karibe Hotel and waved to supporters and journalists outside. □

Violence-scarred Tunisia announces new government



Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi arrives to announce a national unity government in Tunis, Monday Jan. 17, 2011. Ghannouchi, a longtime ally of ousted president Ben Ali, and several top ministers retained their posts in the shake-up, and at least one top opposition leader was expected to join the government.

**BOUAZZA BEN BOUAZZA
ELAINE GANLEY**

Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Tunisia took a step toward democracy and reconciliation Monday, promising to free political prisoners and opening its government to opposition forces long shut out of power — but the old guard held onto the key posts, angering protesters.

Demonstrators carrying signs reading “GET OUT!”

Associated Press

demanding that the former ruling party be banished altogether — a sign more troubles lie ahead for the new unity government as security forces struggle to contain violent reprisals, shootings and looting three days after the country’s longtime president fled under pressure from the streets. “We’re afraid that the president has left, but the powers-that-be remain,” said Hylel Belhassen, a 51-year-old insurance salesman. Even

before the new government was announced Monday, security forces fired tear gas to repel demonstrators who see the change of power as Tunisia’s first real chance at democracy.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali fled Friday to Saudi Arabia after a month of protests over unemployment and corruption led to his downfall after 23 years in power. The government announced Monday that 78 civilians have died in the month of unrest — an announcement that underlined the depth of the violence in the usually placid Mediterranean tourist destination.

Under autocratic Ben Ali, Tunisia was effectively under one-party rule. The new government named Monday includes three ministers from the opposition — a first in Tunisia — but members of Ben Ali’s RCD party held on to most of the jobs, including the most important posts.

Security forces have gotten an image makeover in the public mind. The once-feared police have been fighting snipers and armed groups widely believed to be Ben Ali loyalists.

Nearby nations, meanwhile, faced a wave of self-

immolation attempts Monday, apparently influenced by the desperate Tunisian man who set himself on fire a month ago, sparking the protests that brought his president down.

In Tunisia, hundreds of stranded tourists were still being evacuated and foreign airlines gradually resumed flights that were halted when Tunisian airspace closed amid the upheaval.

Besides the 78 civilians killed in the monthlong protests, Interior Minister Ahmed Friaa said 94 civilians were injured — a jump from the previous official death toll of 23. The new figure does not include members of security forces, some of whom also died, Friaa said.

Among victims of the violence was a French photojournalist who died Monday after being hit in the face with a tear gas canister three days earlier. The French Foreign Ministry said Loucas Von Zabiensky-Mebrouk, 32, was the “victim of a deliberate homicidal act.” The troubles have reverberated to the tourist-based Tunisian economy, which Friaa said has lost \$2 billion because of the unrest. Resort towns like Hammamet are boarded up and under police control, said

Norredine Gohdbani, who worked in a restaurant there and has returned to stay with his family in Tunis.

Friaa told reporters that 85 police stations have been damaged around the country, along with 13 town halls, 43 banks, 11 factories and 66 stores or shopping centers.

Streets of the capital appeared calmer Monday but police were posted on most corners in downtown Tunis, with busloads of forces waiting to deploy. Most shops remained shuttered, but a rare eatery, a pizza restaurant, opened its doors — filled mostly with hungry police officers.

Prime Minister Mohamed Ghannouchi offered a number of concessions to try to appease Ben Ali’s critics, while maintaining the ruling party’s dominance of government and public posts around the country.

Ghannouchi, a longtime Ben Ali ally who has been premier since 1999, retained his post, as did the current ministers of defense, interior and foreign affairs.

Three opposition figures, including Nejjib Chebbi, a founder of the opposition PDP party, will take up posts in the new government. □

UN agency warns of shortfall in fight on hunger

By KARIN LAUB

Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — The World Food Programme is nearly \$3 billion short this year in its fight against global hunger, and the gap is likely to grow if food prices keep rising, the head of the U.N. agency said in an interview Monday.

Josette Sheeran said the shortfall amounts to almost half of what the agency needs. Sheeran spoke to The Associated Press after touring the Palestinian city of Hebron, where she inspected an electronic food voucher project meant to streamline distribution of food to the needy.

The system was first tried out in the West Bank in 2009 and has since been introduced in several other places.

“Part of why I have come to the Palestinian territories is

to send the message to the world that we are in a funding crisis,” Sheeran told the AP. The U.N.’s front line agency against hunger relies on voluntary contributions from governments, corporations and individuals. The agency needs about \$6 billion this year, but is about \$2.8 billion short, Sheeran said.

“When people are hungry, they only have three options — they revolt, they migrate or they die,” she said, adding that it’s more cost effective to prevent hunger than to deal with its consequences.

Sheeran said the funding shortfall is likely to grow, since the current figures have not taken into account another food crisis, a possibility raised by the World Bank and others. Hunger has been on the rise since the financial and food crises of 2008, she said, and more than 1 billion people are

reduced to one meal a day.

“If food prices escalate again, the most vulnerable in the world will lose the one meal a day they are having,” she said. “If food prices double, that means one meal every two days.”

Sheeran carries with her a red plastic cup to illustrate how little it would take to ensure children don’t go to school hungry. It would cost about one euro to fill that cup once a day for a week, she said.

The future is at stake, she said. Children who get at least one daily meal stay in school and study better.

In the West Bank, about 75,000 school children benefit from the program. Instead of a cup of food, they get milk and a date bar made in Saudi Arabia. The aim is to find a local producer to help boost the struggling Palestinian economy, Sheeran said.



Josette Sheeran, right, head of the World Food Program, holds dairy products as she visits a shop in the West Bank city of Hebron, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011. Sheeran toured Hebron to inspect the distribution of food through electronic vouchers, a program that agency officials say was first tried out in the West Bank. Holders can buy staples, such as lentils, rice, oil and dairy products, at participating stores.

Associated Press

The West Bank has been a testing ground for the electronic food voucher, a debit card with which beneficiaries buy their staples when they need them at local stores, rather than having to

report to distribution centers at fixed times.

The electronic vouchers have since been introduced elsewhere, including among Iraqi refugees in Syria and in the Philippines. □

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First indictment filed in Lebanon's Hariri killing

ELIZABETH A. KENNEDY
 Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A U.N. tribunal filed the first indictment Monday in the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, touching off a process many fear could ignite new bloodshed nearly six years after the massive truck bombing along Beirut's waterfront.

The contents of the draft indictment were not revealed and may not become public for weeks as Belgian judge Daniel Franssen decides whether there is enough evidence for a trial. The indictment, confirmed by the international court's headquarters in the Hague, is the latest turn in a deepening political crisis in Lebanon, where Hezbollah toppled the Western-backed government last week in a dispute over the tribunal.

The court is widely expected to accuse members of Hezbollah of being involved in the killing, something the Shiite militant group has insisted it will not accept.

The Iran- and Syria-sponsored group fiercely denies any role in the killing and says the tribunal, jointly funded by U.N. member states and Lebanon, is a conspiracy by

Israel and the United States. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon reaffirmed his "strong support" for the work of the tribunal, saying the filing of the indictment "is in pursuit of its mandate to end impunity for the terrible crimes" that killed Hariri and 22 others, U.N. spokesman Martin Nesirky said in a statement.

U.S. President Barack Obama called the indictment by the U.N. tribunal an important step toward achieving justice for the people of Lebanon. He urged all Lebanese leaders and factions to preserve calm and exercise restraint, and said the Special Tribunal for Lebanon must be allowed to continue its work without interference and coercion.

"Any attempt to fuel tensions and instability, in Lebanon or in the region, will only undermine the very freedom and aspirations that the Lebanese people seek and that so many nations support," Obama said.

Many fear the crisis could lead to street protests and the kind of violence that has bedeviled this tiny Arab country of 4 million people for years, including a devastating 1975-1990 civil war and sectarian battles between Sunnis and

Shiites in 2008.

Prime Minister Saad Hariri — the son of the slain leader — has refused Hezbollah's demands to renounce the court, prompting 11 Hezbollah ministers and their allies to resign on Wednesday.

The move brought down the unity government and further polarized the country's rival factions: Hezbollah with its patrons in Syria and Iran on one side, and Hariri's Western-backed bloc on the other, with support by the U.S. and Saudi Arabia.

The U.S. has called Hezbollah's walkout a transparent effort to subvert justice.

On Monday, Foreign Minister Ali Shami cautioned the U.S. to stop meddling in Lebanon. He summoned American Ambassador Maura Connelly to explain her weekend meeting with Nicolas Fattouch, a key undecided lawmaker, as politicians scramble to form a government.

After Monday's meeting with Shami, Connelly's office denied any interference.

"She explained to the foreign minister that the United States Embassy has regular contact with personalities from across Lebanon's political spectrum as part of its diplomatic mission," an



Caretaker Prime Minister Saad Hariri, speaks during a press conference after meeting Lebanese President Michel Suleiman at the Presidential Palace in Baabda, east of Beirut, Lebanon, Friday, Jan. 14, 2011. Hariri returned home Friday to a deepening political crisis two days after a Hezbollah-led coalition toppled his Western-backed government.

Associated Press

embassy spokesman said. "The United States does not interfere in Lebanon's internal political matters. The shape and composition of the government is, of course, a Lebanese matter."

The Foreign Ministry's admonishment came as leaders from Turkey, Qatar and Syria met in Damascus to discuss the crisis. Lebanon had planned to hold its own talks starting Monday, but postponed them for a week as the regional leaders tackle the crisis.

Lengthy negotiations lie ahead between Lebanon's factions as they attempt to build a new government.

According to Lebanon's power-sharing system, the president must be a Christian Maronite, the prime minister a Sunni and the parliament speaker a Shiite. Each faith makes up about a third of Lebanon's population of 4 million.

Hariri, a Sunni, is staying on as a caretaker prime minister as a new government is formed. □

Paraguay: Guerrilla backpack bomb injures 5



A police officer, injured during a bomb attack to a police station, is taken to a hospital in Asuncion, Paraguay, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011. The bomb exploded just before midnight Sunday at a police station in the northern town of Horqueta, where many fugitives from a guerrilla group calling itself the Paraguayan People's Army, claiming responsibility for the attack, are from. Four police officers were injured.

Associated Press

PEDRO SERVIN

Associated Press

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — A leftist guerrilla group has claimed responsibility for a bomb that injured five people as Paraguay's third bombing in a week raised alarm about increasing activity by the self-styled Paraguayan People's

Army.

A handwritten letter left nearby vowed to continue anti-government attacks and to show no mercy for police shootings of their comrades. Interior Minister Rafael Filizzola flew to the scene Monday hours after the bomb exploded just before midnight.

He vowed no retreat in the effort to jail the guerrillas and dismantle their organization, known by the Spanish initials EPP.

The latest homemade bomb was left in a backpack outside a police station in Horqueta, a small town in northern Paraguay that is home to fugitive members of the EPP. Someone detonated it by remote control as four officers sat in a police vehicle nearby. All four were expected to recover, although one had serious eye damage, special forces commander Elizardo Rojas said. A fifth victim — a motorcyclist passing by — sought treatment for hearing damage at a hospital and was being sought as a witness.

Filizzola said "the bomb was highly powerful, because private homes, neighbors of the police station, suffered material damage."

"For the government, this was a criminal attack with terrorist characteristics," he said, describing the group as

"a band of delinquents," he added.

A handwritten note left nearby said the bombing was meant to avenge the deaths of two EPP members who were killed in police firefights last year. "Our dead are more alive than ever," it said, warning: "We won't forget nor forgive. Forget the word mercy. We will apply a high cost for the festival of tortures and the murder of our comrades."

Filizzola led an intense campaign last year to crack down on the EPP, whose ideology about providing for the very poor has won them sympathy and even outright support in impoverished northern Paraguay. Some high-profile arrests were made, but at least three main leaders remain at large.

The government has purchased or received upgraded police equipment from Spain and the United States, and sent 250 special police forces to hunt down EPP members. But the campaign wound down

by October, with most of the special forces returning to their bases and only 50 additional officers in northern Paraguay to confront the group.

A U.S. embassy cable published by WikiLeaks said the interior minister told the American ambassador last year that the leftist guerrillas pose an existential threat to President Fernando Lugo's government. Filizzola refused to comment on the leaked cable, and has insisted they are merely a band of criminals.

The EPP began to operate in 1999 as the armed wing of the leftist Patria Libre party. It focused at first on bank robberies and ransom kidnappings, and later attacked small police and military posts, making off with weapons. It resurfaced in 2008 and 2009, kidnapping two ranchers and receiving a total of \$645,000 in ransom. The EPP had been relatively quiet recently until two bombs were left in downtown Asuncion Wednesday. □

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NFL Playoff Roundup:

New York Jets coach Rex Ryan, center, reacts near the end of the Jets' 28-21 win over the New England Patriots in NFL divisional playoff football game in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011.

Associated Press
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SPORTS Aruba TODAY



On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:582-7800 Tuesday, January 18, 2011

The end?



This March 6, 2008, file photo shows Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre getting choked up as he talks about his retirement, during a news conference at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

Favre again files for retirement

PAGE B3

AP Source:

NASCAR may scrap points system

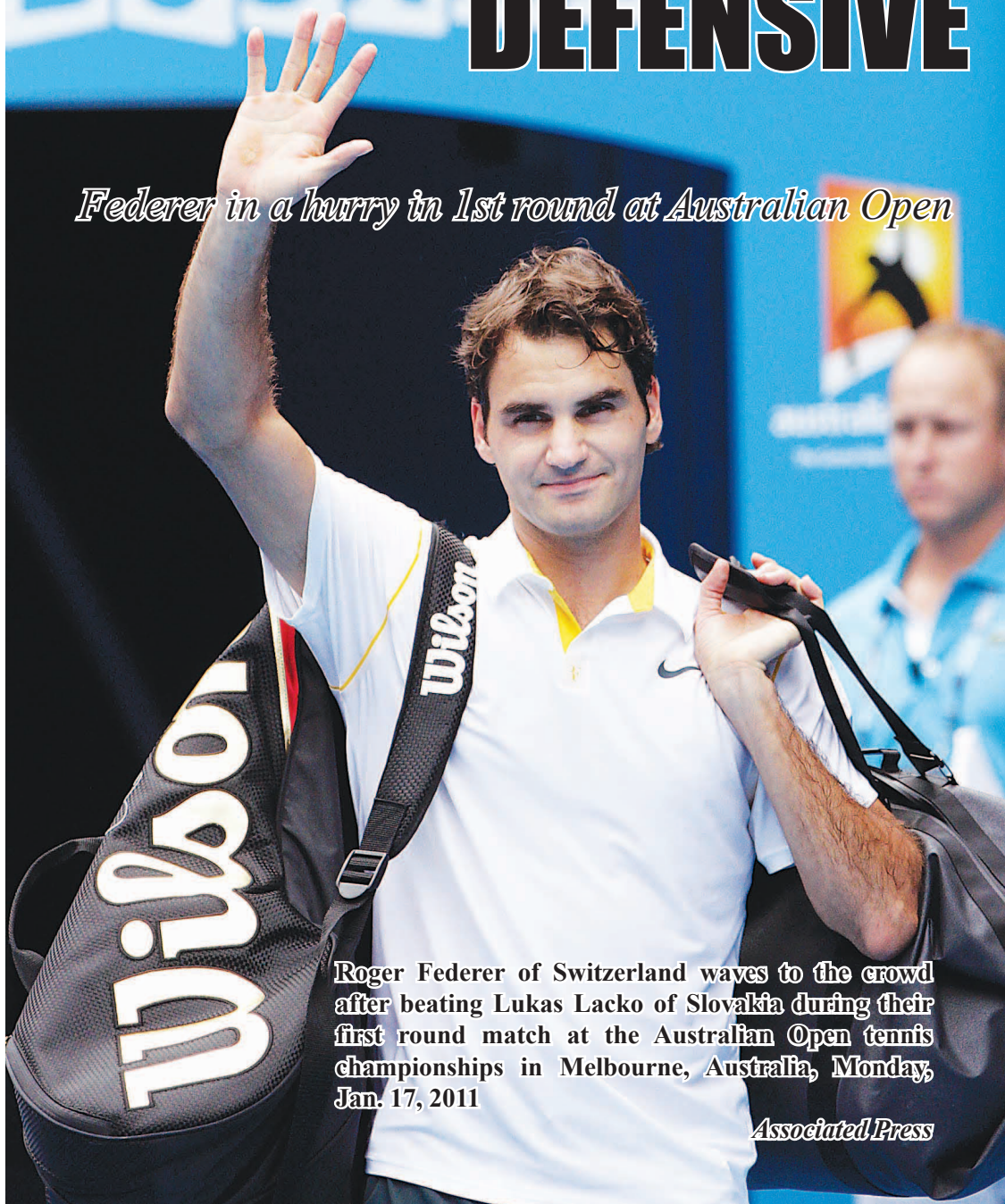
JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer
CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — NASCAR is considering scrapping the points system it has used since 1975 in favor of a simpler method that awards points per finishing position, The Associated Press has learned. The overhauling of the system is one of a handful of changes NASCAR is considering implementing before the season begins next month.

Continued on Page B6

ON THE DEFENSIVE

Federer in a hurry in 1st round at Australian Open



Roger Federer of Switzerland waves to the crowd after beating Lukas Lacko of Slovakia during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011

Associated Press

Federer, Djokovic off to fast starts in Melbourne

By JOHN PYE

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia — Roger Federer was sublime at times in his opening win. Novak Djokovic was businesslike and to the point. Their messages to Rafael Nadal on Monday were no doubt the same: The Spaniard will have to be at his very best to complete his "Rafa Slam" at the Australian Open.

Defending champion Federer dismantled Lukas Lacko 6-1, 6-1, 6-3, mixing some classic touch and angled shots with aggressive groundstrokes in the third match at Rod Laver Arena. Lacko's only break came in the second set, when he successfully challenged two baseline calls in one game that had been given to Federer as winners — the 16-time Grand Slam champion must have mesmerized the line judges with his earlier precision.

Continued on Page B8

Wilson's win takes him down Magnolia Lane

Mark Wilson reacts to his putt on the second green during the third round of the Sony Open golf tournament, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011, in Honolulu. Two rounds will be played Sunday due to a rain delay at the start of the Honolulu based tournament.

Associated Press
Read Next Page



NBA Roundup

Clippers beat Pacers, Griffin scores 47 points

Scores and more on
PAGE B4

AP sources: Love to be next U.S. Ryder captain

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

HONOLULU — Davis Love III didn't have much success against Jose Maria Olazabal as a player in the Ryder Cup. Now he gets to see how he fares against the Spaniard as a captain.

Two officials involved with the selection process confirm Love will be the next U.S. captain. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the official announcement was not until Thursday at Medinah, where the 2012 matches will be played.

Reports out of Europe indicate Olazabal of Spain will be introduced as captain Tuesday at the Abu Dhabi Championship.

Love played on six Ryder Cup teams, winning the pivotal point at The Belfry in 1993. He played on only one other winning team, the

great American comeback in 1999 at Brookline. His career record was 9-12-5.

Love was a vice captain in October when Europe won back the Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor.

"The only thing I learned on the outside, instead of playing, is we cared too much," Love said in an interview over the weekend. "We try too hard. I've talked to a couple of players about how we can treat this like another tournament. But it's hard. It's the same thing at the Masters and U.S. Open. How do we figure out how to treat it like another tournament and be more prepared to just play golf?"

Love has known all along he eventually would be a Ryder Cup captain, and he joked about trying to do it the same year as Darren Clarke. But he has some history with Olazabal, one of the most

respected figures in golf.

Love faced Olazabal in his very first Ryder Cup match in 1993. He teamed with Tom Kite for a 2-and-1 victory over Olazabal and Seve Ballesteros, the most successful European team ever. That was his only win, though. Olazabal won the other four times they played in team matches at The Belfry and at Valderrama in 1997.

Love, whose lone major was the 1997 PGA Championship, has 20 wins on the PGA Tour, trailing only Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh among players from his generation.

"He'll be a great captain," Steve Stricker said. "He's played on a ton of these teams, and I remember when he had that deciding point. He's still out here playing and he's involved with all the guys."

Love began his 2011 season at the Sony Open, where he



At left is a Sept. 17, 2009, file photo showing Jose Maria Olazabal. At right is an April 28, 2010, file photo showing Davis Love III. Davis Love III is next up as U.S. captain in the Ryder Cup. Two officials involved with the selection process confirm that Love will be the captain in 2012.

Associated Press

shot in the 60s all four rounds and tied for ninth. He said he already had contemplated how he would juggle playing golf with Ryder Cup captain duties, not to mention his role running the McGladrey Classic in the Fall Series that is played in his Sea Island community.

He also said he had spoken to past captain Corey Pavin

about how much time was required to promote the event. "This year will be easy," Love said. "There's not a lot to do except to make Freddie's Presidents Cup team."

Love has not played in any cup since the 2005 Presidents Cup. Fred Couples returns as U.S. captain for this year's event in Australia. □



Mark Wilson follows his drive off the 10th tee during the third round of the Sony Open golf tournament Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011, in Honolulu.

Associated Press

While holding the winning trophy, Mark Wilson flashes a "shaka" after the final round of the Sony Open golf tournament, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011, in Honolulu.

Associated Press

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

HONOLULU — Mark Wilson used to be a regular at Augusta National, just not on his terms. He first went to the Masters with his father as a 14-year-old, following Fred Couples

in a practice round. When he was in the area for mini-tour events, Wilson would try to get tickets from a friend. His last trip was 10 years ago, and he made a pledge not to return until he could drive down Magnolia Lane with the clubs

Wilson's win takes him down Magnolia Lane

in the trunk of his car.

"I get goose bumps thinking about it," Wilson said.

He earned his first trip to the Masters by winning his first tournament of the year, surviving a 36-hole marathon Sunday in the Sony Open in which Wilson never made bogey and had rounds of 65-67 for a two-shot victory.

Rain that washed out the first round at Waialae turned the final day into a blur. Wilson was up before the sun rose over Waikiki Beach. He finished his third round in the morning with a one-shot lead, and had only six minutes — enough time to grab a chicken sandwich and a fresh box of golf balls from his locker — before he teed off for the next 18 holes.

About the only time he caught his breath was on the 17th green late in the afternoon. He had a one-shot lead, had not been able to reach the par-5 18th in two shots all week, and had a 12-foot par putt. That's when he realized he had not

made a bogey all day.

"I thought about that before I hit the putt," Wilson said. "I haven't made a bogey all day, so why start now? It entered my mind, but when I was over the putt, I didn't think about it."

Tim Clark had finished an hour earlier with a 64 and was one-shot behind, and was left waiting on the practice range for a playoff that didn't happen. Steve Marino made a late charge with back-to-back birdies to get within two shots, then nearly pulled off an improbable eagle. His drive splashed out of a bunker and onto a hill, so Marino had to take his stance with his feet in the sand and try to hit a fairway metal from 234 yards away with the ball about chest-high on the hill. It landed on the front of the green, rolled 40 feet away and his putt missed by inches. He had to settle for a 68.

Wilson rolled in a 4-foot birdie on the final hole that didn't matter except for the margin.

He finished at 16-under 264. Sweeter still was his wife, Amy, hugging him on the 18th green. In his two previous PGA Tour victories, she had gone home to Chicago for the week.

"It was neat to see her run onto the green," Wilson said.

And then there's the matter of that little invitational down in Augusta, Ga., the first full week of April.

Wilson, who didn't make it to the PGA Tour until 2003 when he was 28, has been a victim of the wrong time or the wrong place. His first win was in 2007 at the Honda Classic. It was during the Masters a month later when Augusta National said it was changing its criteria to invite most PGA Tour winners.

"Believe me, I looked at the fine print on that one," Wilson said. "I thought it was a calendar year when they first announced it, and I was really excited. But no, it was from Masters-to-Masters, so I didn't get in." □

Favre again files for retirement with NFL

DAVE CAMPBELL

AP Sports Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Don't believe Brett Favre is finally done? Well, NFL's all-time leader of almost every major passing mark has at least filled out the forms. Favre has made another move toward leaving the game for good by filing retirement papers with the league, NFL spokesman Greg Aiello confirmed Monday.

This is merely a procedural matter, to start the clock on a player's pension and Hall of Fame eligibility. It's worth noting, too, that Favre has done this before, only to change his mind. Retired players can request to be reinstated at any time. But the news was another sign that Favre's thrill-filled 20-year career has come to an end, as he repeatedly insisted throughout a painfully disappointing 2010 season for the Minnesota Vikings.

The 41-year-old Favre threw for only 11 touchdowns in 13 games and was intercepted 19 times, finishing with a career-low 69.9 passer rating that ranked third-worst in the NFL among

qualifying quarterbacks.

His body took quite a beating, getting knocked out of three different games while dealing with injuries to his elbow, foot, chin, neck, back, ribs and calf — plus the sprained throwing shoulder that ended his all-time record streak of 297 straight regular-season games started. Then he suffered a concussion in what wound up being his last game, on Dec. 20 against the Chicago Bears.

"I know it's time, and that's OK. It is," Favre said after the season finale. "Again, I hold no regrets, and I can't think of too many players offhand that can walk away and say that. Individually and from a team standpoint, it was way more than I ever dreamed of."

After years of waffling, Favre cried as he announced his retirement from the Green Bay Packers in March 2008. With the Vikings interested but the Packers unwilling to let him join their rival, he was traded to the New York Jets. Following one season there, he declared he was done again in February 2009. The Vikings wooed him back to the field that summer,



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre watches from the sidelines in the fourth quarter of their NFL football game against the Detroit Lions in Detroit, Sunday, Jan. 2, 2011. The Lions won 20-13.

though, and they rode his renaissance performance — 33 touchdowns and a mere seven interceptions — to the NFC championship game. After needing another summer of persuasion to return in 2010, however, Favre wasn't the same and the Vikings slumped badly to 6-10 while going through all kinds of drama.

So now Favre has headed home to Mississippi, presumably for good as his two-year contract with the

Vikings is expiring. Favre's official website even sent out a marketing e-mail blast over the weekend, advertising a "Thanks for the Memories" poster

for sale. A portion of the proceeds go to the Favre 4 Hope Foundation, which helps disadvantaged and disabled children and breast cancer patients. □

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GULLIVER'S TRAVEL

daily: 5:00

matinee: 12:30 - 2:45

late show: 11:30

LITTLE FOCKERS

daily: 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

matinee: 12:00 - 2:30

late show: 11:30

I SPIT ON YOUR GRAVE

daily: 6:15 - 9:00

matinee: 1:00 - 3:30

late show: 11:30

HEREAFTER

daily: 5:30 - 8:30

matinee: 12:00 - 2:45

late show: 11:15

NO PROBLEM

daily: 9:00

matinee: 11:30

late show: 11:30

AT PASEO HERENCIA

TRON LEGACY 3D

daily: 4:00 - 6:30 - 9:15

matinee: 1:15

late show: 12:00

THE GREEN HORNET

daily: 6:45 - 9:15

matinee: 11:45

late show: 11:45

NEW KIDS TURBO

daily: 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:30

matinee: 12:45 - 3:00

late show: 11:30

TANGLED

daily: 4:00

matinee: 1:45

late show: 11:30

GULLIVER'S TRAVEL

daily: 4:30

matinee: 12:30 - 2:30

late show: 11:30

HEREAFTER

daily: 5:30 - 8:15

matinee: 12:00 - 2:45

late show: 11:00

LITTLE FOCKERS

daily: 5:30 - 7:45 - 10:00

matinee: 12:30 - 3:00

late show: 12:15

TRUE GRIT

daily: 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:45

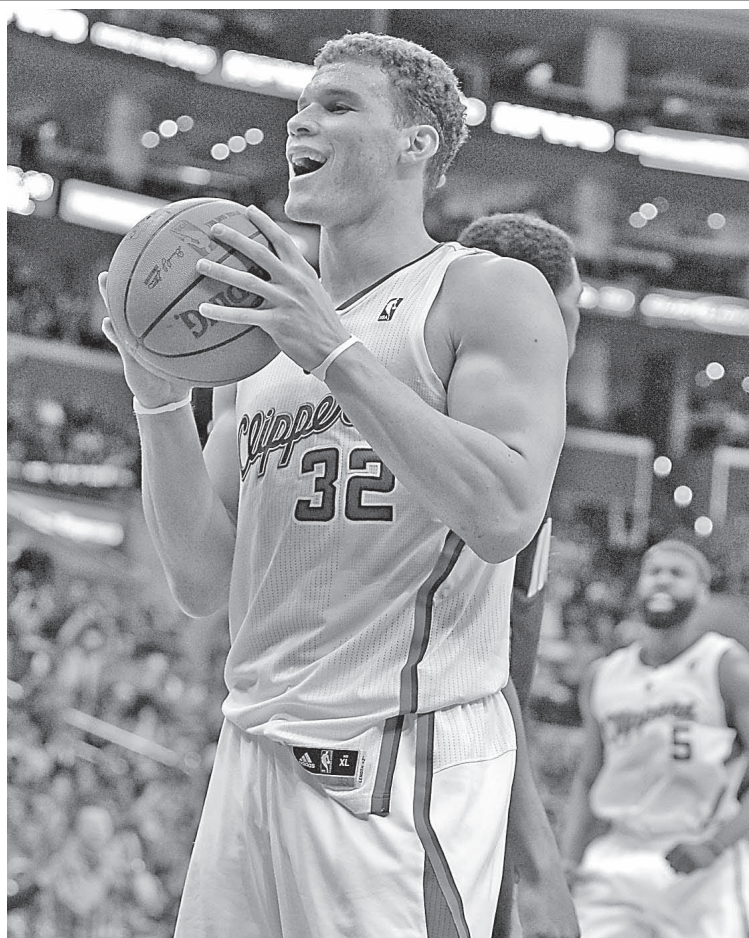
matinee: 2:00

late show: 12:15

Matinee: sat - sun | Late show: fri & sat

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Los Angeles Clippers forward Blake Griffin (32) yells out after scoring his 40th point of the NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers, during the second half Monday, Jan. 17, 2011, in Los Angeles. Griffin finished with 47 points as the Clippers won 114-107.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Blake Griffin had a career-high 47 points and 14 rebounds for his 27th consecutive double-double as the Los Angeles Clippers rallied to beat the Indiana Pacers 114-107 on Monday.

Danny Granger scored 32 points, making 10 of 11 free throws, and former UCLA star Darren Collison added 30 points and eight assists for the Pacers.

Eric Gordon added 23 points and Baron Davis had 14 points

NBA Roundup

Clippers beat Pacers 114-107

Griffin scores 47

and 12 assists for the Clippers, who were coming off a win over the two-time defending NBA champion Lakers a day earlier and have won 10 of their last 14.

Hawks 100, Kings 98

At Atlanta, Joe Johnson scored a season-high 36 points, including two free throws with 0.6 seconds remaining to help Atlanta recover after trailing most of the game.

Johnson drove past three defenders for a layup with 23 seconds remaining to give Atlanta a 98-96 lead. Carl Landry answered with a tying basket for Sacramento with 11.7 seconds remaining.

Al Horford added 23 points, nine rebounds and seven blocks for Atlanta.

DeMarcus Cousins led the Kings with 20 points.

Suns 129, Knicks 121

At New York, Vince Carter scored 29 points, including the 20,000th of his career, as Phoenix matched a season high with its third straight victory.

Grant Hill added 25 points for the Suns, who overcame

a season-high 41 points from former Phoenix All-Star Amare Stoudemire and handed the Knicks their third loss in a row. Steve Nash finished with 15 points and 11 assists.

Wilson Chandler scored 23 points for the Knicks. Raymond Felton had 13 assists.

Pistons 103, Mavericks 89

At Auburn Hills, Michigan, Rodney Stuckey scored 20 points to help Detroit send Dallas to its sixth consecutive loss.

Tayshaun Prince added 19 points and rookie Greg Monroe had 16 points and nine rebounds for Detroit, which has won three straight for the first time all season.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 32 points for Dallas in his second game back from a sprained right knee. Jason Terry added 18 points, but no other Maverick was in double figures.

Hornets 85, Raptors 81

At New Orleans, David West had 23 points and 10 rebounds to help New Orleans win its fifth straight.

Emeka Okafor had 17 points

and a season-high 16 rebounds, tying a Hornets franchise record with 12 offensive rebounds. Jarrett Jack added 17 points and Chris Paul had 11 assists.

DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points for Toronto and Johnson added 17.

Bulls 96, Grizzlies 84

At Memphis, Tennessee, Derrick Rose returned to Memphis with his first career triple-double, and Luol Deng scored 28 points to lead Chicago past Memphis.

Rose, coming back to the city where he starred at the University of Memphis, scored 22 points, handed out 12 assists and grabbed 10 rebounds.

Kyle Korver scored 22 points for Chicago with 6-of-10 shooting from three-point range.

Zach Randolph led the Grizzlies with 21 points and 13 rebounds.

At Houston, Kevin Martin scored 36 points and Houston recovered from its lowest first-half point total of the season. □

Ahead of swap day, Upton and Rays settle

By RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — A year after losing to the Tampa Bay Rays in salary arbitration, B.J. Upton decided to settle.

The 27-year-old center fielder was awarded the team's \$3 million offer last winter by a three-person panel rather than his \$3.3 million request. On Monday, Upton and the Rays agreed to a one-year contract worth \$4,825,000.

Since 119 players filed for arbitration Friday, more than a dozen have settled their cases. By the time teams and players swap proposed arbitration figures Tuesday afternoon, only about 50 players are likely to remain without agreements, and most of those will settle before hearings are held next month.

Milwaukee Brewers slugger Prince Fielder, major league home run champion Jose Bautista of Toronto and Boston closer Jonathan Papelbon were among those set to exchange figures.

NL MVP Joey Votto finalized his \$38 million, three-year contract with the Cincinnati Reds, a deal that had been agreed to over the weekend pending a physical. Among those in arbitration who finalized agreements Monday were Colorado pitcher Matt Lindstrom (\$6.6 million for two years), Washington left-hander John Lannan (\$2.75 million), Cleveland

shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera (\$2,025,000); Kansas City right-hander Robinson Tejeda (\$1.55 million). Florida struck deals with right-handers Leo Nunez (\$3.65 million) and Edward Mujica (\$800,000, and Toronto settled with right-handers Casey Janssen (\$1,095,000) and Jesse Litsch (\$830,000).

Among unannounced deals were one-year contracts for Baltimore right-hander Jim Johnson (\$975,000) and Cincinnati left-hander Bill Bray (\$645,000).

Agreements for six players were announced last weekend: Chicago Cubs catcher Geovany Soto (\$3 million). Blue Jays right-hander Carlos Villanueva (\$1,415,000), St. Louis right-hander Kyle McClellan (\$1,375,000), Oakland right-hander Brad Ziegler (\$1.25 million), Philadelphia outfielder Ben Francisco (\$1,175,000) and Minnesota infielder Alexi Castilla (\$865,000).

Among free agents, right-hander Jon Rauch agreed to a one-year contract with the Blue Jays worth \$3.75 million, big-spending Colorado kept former AL MVP Jason Giambi with a minor league contract and the New York Mets gave infielder Willie Harris a minor league deal.

Also, the Cubs agreed to trade pitcher Tom Gorzelanny to the Nationals for prospects, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity

Monday because Gorzelanny needed to pass a physical, which is scheduled for Tuesday.

Votto receives a huge raise from the \$525,000 he made last season, when he led the Reds to their first playoff appearance in 15 years. He will be eligible for free agency after the 2013 season.

"I think it gives me the opportunity to avoid arbitration and to also just concentrate on playing in the next three years," Votto said during a conference call. "It has absolutely nothing to do with getting to free agency or that, although a lot of people would interpret it that way. I can't imagine playing for another team right now."

Votto was an All-Star for the first time last season, finishing second in the league with a .324 batting average and third with 37 homers and 113 RBIs.

Colorado's deal with Lindstrom follows megacontracts that committed \$157.75 million over the next decade to shortstop Troy Tulowitzki and \$80 million over seven seasons to outfielder Carlos Gonzalez, plus a \$21.5 million, two-year deal for left-hander Jorge De La Rosa.

"We all know that whatever you do in the winter doesn't mean a thing if you don't play well in the spring, summer and fall," general manager Dan O'Dowd said. "We've got a long ways to go to improve our style of play." □



Matt Goss of Australia, riding for team HTC - Highroad, celebrates after winning the Tour Down Under bicycle racing prologue at Adelaide, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011.

Associated Press

Sprinters' battle may be Tour Down Under highlight

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) — The clash of some of the world's greatest sprinters, notably Mark Cavendish and Andre Greipel, may upstage Lance Armstrong's farewell race outside the United States when the Tour Down Under cycle race begins Tuesday.

The first event of the UCI WorldTour has few exacting climbs and favors sprinters, having been won by Greipel in two of the last three years. This year's event has attracted seven of the world's top-10 sprinters and the contest could be spiced by reported friction between Greipel and Cavendish.

Cavendish and Greipel had a supposedly fractious relationship while teammates at HTC-Highroad. Cavendish will ride for the U.S. Highroad team in Australia but Greipel now rides for Belgium-based Omega Pharma-Lotto, setting up what some riders are calling a "brawl" for the title.

The 133-strong field for the six-day tour also includes top sprinters Tyler Farrar of the United States, New Zealand's Greg Henderson, Italy's Francesco Chicchi, Germany's Gerald Ciolek and Australian pair Allan Davis, a former tour winner, and Robbie McEwen, who rides for Armstrong's Team Radio Shack.

The rivalry of Cavendish and Greipel will be closely watched, though both have attempted to play down reports of friction. Cavendish ridiculed claims of acrimony as a media construction. "I just want to be near him," Cavendish said jokingly when asked about his relationship with Greipel. "If you don't know, we're actually lovers. You wanted your headline with me and Greipel, you've got it."

Greipel denied harboring any ill feeling against Cavendish.

"I was always loyal to Mark," Greipel said. "Hopefully he was also respectful to me. I have a respect for all the riders, that's how I am."

"I think it's not always Mark Cavendish who is my main rival, there's other riders. I just look forward to being competitive like the other years. And I respect him (Cavendish) of course. But the other way, I don't know, you have to ask him."

Greipel and Cavendish chances will depend on the abilities of their teammates to put them in stage-winning positions. Cavendish has his regular lead-out man, Australian rider Mark Renshaw, in his team, which suggests he will be well-placed in the usual bunched sprint finishes. Renshaw showed promising form when he finished second behind teammate Matthew Goss in the 32-mile criterium prologue to the tour on Sunday.

Greipel has also assembled a team capable of leading him to stage wins.

"I brought three guys from HTC (Adam Hansen, Vicente Reynes and Marcel Sieberg). They know how I want them and they will set me up for sprints," he said. □

NHL Roundup

Chara, Thomas lift Bruins past Hurricanes, 7-0



Boston Bruins' Zdeno Chara, of Slovakia, celebrates his hat trick in the third period of an NHL hockey game against the Carolina Hurricanes, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011, in Boston. The Bruins won 7-0.

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Zdeno Chara had his first career three-goal game and Tim Thomas stopped 31 shots for his seventh shutout to lift the Boston Bruins to a 7-0 win over the Carolina Hurricanes on Monday.

Mark Stuart, returning to the lineup after missing 18 games with a broken finger, had a goal in the first period. Gregory Campbell, Patrice Bergeron and Michael Ryder also scored for Boston, which has lost just twice in regulation in its last 13 games (8-2-3).

It was the Bruins' second lopsided win in six days; they shut out Ottawa 6-0 with Thomas in net last Tuesday. It was also the third time in the last four games Boston scored at least six goals.

Sharks 4, Coyotes 2

At Glendale, Arizona, Patrick Marleau scored early in his 1,000th career NHL game as San Jose beat Phoenix.

Rookie Logan Couture and Dany Heatley each had a goal and an assist for the Sharks, who won their second in a row after ending a six-game skid with a win Saturday

night against St. Louis. Joe Thornton's empty-net goal with 48 seconds left sealed the victory.

Coyotes rookie Oliver Ekman-Larsson got his first NHL goal. Derek Morris also scored for Phoenix.

Devils 5, Islanders 2

At Uniondale, Arizona, Vladimir Zharkov scored his first NHL goal as the suddenly potent New Jersey broke out again.

Zharkov started the Devils' latest barrage in the first

period before Ilya Kovalchuk doubled the lead 57 seconds later. New Jersey also got a pair of goals 54 seconds apart from Rod Pelley and Dainius Zubrus in the second period after the Islanders trimmed a three-goal deficit to one.

Mattias Tedenby, playing for the first time since Jan. 1, and Pelley both had a goal and an assist to back Martin Brodeur's 27-save effort. P.A. Parenteau and Michael Grabner had goals 54 seconds apart to pull New York to 3-2. □

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AP Poll: Ohio State is new No. 1 after Duke loses



Ohio State's Jared Sullinger (0) celebrates after making a basket in front of Penn State's David Jackson (15) during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011, in Columbus, Ohio. Ohio State won 69-66.

By **JIM O'CONNELL**
AP Basketball Writer

The last time Thad Matta's Ohio State Buckeyes topped The Associated Press Top 25, they reached the national championship game.

Could the same karma take place in 2010-11?

"It did happen that way before and it would be great for it to happen again," Matta said Monday, hours after the Buckeyes replaced Duke at No. 1. "I'd trade it right now for better defense. But it's great for our program."

The Buckeyes (18-0) moved up one spot to replace Duke, which was No. 1 in the preseason Top 25 and the first nine polls of the regular season, including six weeks as the unanimous pick of the 65-member national media panel.

The Blue Devils' loss at Florida State on Wednesday opened the way for the Buckeyes, who are No. 1 for the third time in school history. Ohio State was No. 1 for all of 1960-61 and 1961-62, a run of 27 straight polls, and for three weeks at the end of 2006-07.

"This is big for our program

and The Ohio State University," Matta said. "At Ohio State we're trying to be the best program we can be and this is part of that. I don't know if the players will wear it as a target. I think we know how tough it will be to keep it."

Ohio State, led by John Havlicek and Jerry Lucas, won the national championship in 1960 and lost the title game to Cincinnati in 1961 and 1962. The Buckeyes, this time led by Greg Oden and Mike Conley Jr., reached the Final Four in 2007, losing to Florida in the championship game.

The Buckeyes got as high as No. 5 last season with Evan Turner, the national player of the year, leading the way. He left early for the NBA draft and is now with the Philadelphia 76ers.

"I'm glad to see it," he said of the No. 1 ranking. "They're doing well and just playing terrific. I knew they were going to be really good, especially with the returning players they had and the incoming players they have now. They paid their dues

over the last three years. This is perfect."

With West Virginia moving into the poll for the first time this season, the Big East ties its own record with nine teams in the Top 25. There were nine Big East teams ranked for one week in January 2009. The Buckeyes received 49 first-place votes Monday. Kansas, which was No. 1 on six ballots, and Syracuse, which got eight first-place votes, each moved up one spot to second

and third. Duke, which still received one first-place vote, dropped to fourth. Pittsburgh, which was also No. 1 on one ballot, San Diego State and Villanova remained fifth through seventh.

Connecticut, BYU and Texas rounded out the top 10.

Fourteen ranked schools lost last week, including Purdue, Notre Dame and Illinois, which each lost twice.

The other schools moving into the poll this week are Minnesota and Michigan

State, both of which were ranked earlier this season, and Saint Mary's, Calif.

"It's nice to be recognized," said Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett. "Being ranked in Top 25 polls really demonstrates the consistency of the program and gives our team some extra recognition and publicity, which we appreciate."

Kansas State, which was No. 3 in the preseason poll, Temple, Georgia and UCF dropped out this week. □

NASCAR

Continued from Page B1

Series officials have been detailing their ideas in individual meetings with teams, a person who attended one of the briefings told The AP on Monday.

The person spoke to The AP on condition of anonymity because NASCAR has not finalized its upcoming changes.

The sanctioning body wants to go to a scoring system that would award 43 points to the race winner, and one point less for each ensuing position down to one point for the 43rd-place finisher.

NASCAR is also shying away from wholesale changes to its Chase for the Sprint Cup championship format.

NASCAR chairman Brian France floated the idea last July of shaking up the Chase to create more drama to the 10-week series that determines the Cup champion. Among France's suggestions were widening the 12-driver field, instituting elimination rounds, and adding any other drama that could create "Game 7" type moments rivaling those from other professional sports leagues.

But teams have been told NASCAR is leaning toward keeping it a 12-driver field, with one caveat: The top 10 drivers following the 26th race of the season would qualify for the Chase, while the remaining two spots would go to the drivers with the most wins who are not already eligible for the Chase.

NASCAR officials have also told teams they aren't leaning toward adding eliminations.

Preseason testing begins Thursday at Daytona International Speedway, and NASCAR president Mike Helton and vice president of competition Robin Pemberton are scheduled to discuss some of the changes planned for 2011.

But the major announcements aren't scheduled until next week when France

makes a presentation during Charlotte Motor Speedway's annual media tour.

France and his top officials found themselves in a precarious position at the end of last season, which was marked by the closest championship race in seven years. France had already publicly toyed with the idea of changing the Chase, which was implemented in 2004 to spice up NASCAR's championship system.

"Right now every sports league, or almost every one, is looking at what they need to do to change their formats a little or a lot, depending on who they are, to make sure their playoffs or their championship runs are what they want them to be," France said two days before the November season finale.

Three drivers went into the season finale eligible to win the championship. It went to Jimmie Johnson, who overcame a 15-point deficit to Denny Hamlin in the final race to win his record fifth consecutive title.

Because the system seemingly worked as the Chase played out last season, sweeping changes did not seem necessary.

The points system, though, apparently is a different matter.

NASCAR legend claims the current system was devised on a napkin over drinks at a Daytona bar in 1974 and implemented the next season. The complicated scoring method gives 175 points to the winner, and decreases in increments of five points and then three points down to 34 points for the last-place finisher.

Five-point bonuses are awarded for leading a lap, and to the driver who leads the most laps.

NASCAR is still debating how to award bonuses under a straight points system, and ideas being considered are for anywhere from one to three points being given to lap leaders and race winners. □

No. 1 seeds both one-and-done in NFL playoffs

The New York Jets upset the New England Patriots 28-21 Sunday as Mark Sanchez threw three touchdown passes, Tom Brady was sacked five times and Rex Ryan's team put itself one win away from backing up his Super Bowl boast. Santonio Holmes, best-known for a brilliant grab that won the 2009 Super Bowl for the Steelers, took a leaping touchdown catch and now is close to a shot at another title with his new team.

Brady and the Patriots (14-3) lost their third straight postseason game, this defeat coming to the team they beat 45-3 during the regular season, a team that became media darlings with their preseason appearance on HBO's "Hard Knocks" reality show. The Patriots — who had the league's best record during the regular season — were beaten less than 24 hours after National Football Conference top seed Atlanta went down with a 48-21 rout by Aaron Rodgers and the streaking Green Bay Packers.

"We came here for a reason," said Ryan, the Jets' brash coach. "We believed we were

the better team. I knew if we applied ourselves, we would beat them." The Jets will travel to Pittsburgh for their second straight American Football Conference championship game, looking for their first Super Bowl appearance since Joe Namath boldly predicted a win in the 1969 title game — then backed up his words against the heavily favored Colts.

In Sunday's other contest, the Chicago Bears completed a matchup between two of the NFL's most storied teams by cruising past the under-.500 Seattle Seahawks 35-24.

Jay Cutler passed for two touchdowns and ran for two more to lead the Bears. He especially enjoyed scoring twice with his feet, reaching the end zone from 6 and 9 yards out.

Chicago will face the Packers in the NFC title game — the 182nd meeting between the teams over the last 90 years, but, amazingly enough, only the second time they've faced each other in a playoff.

Way back in 1941 — just days after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor and a quarter-century



New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez celebrates his touchdown pass to Santonio Holmes during the second half of an NFL divisional playoff football game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass., Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011.

before there was even a game known as the Super Bowl — the George Halas-coached Bears beat the Packers 33-14 at Wrigley Field for the Western Division title. The playoff was needed after each team went 10-1 during the regular season.

After knocking off the Packers, Chicago went on to beat the New York Giants for

one of its nine NFL titles. But the Bears haven't won it all since shuffling to the Super Bowl championship during the 1985 season with Jim McMahon, Walter Payton & Co.

Green Bay has won a record 12 NFL titles, most recently during the 1996 season with Brett Favre at quarterback.

"It's a big deal. We have a lot

Associated Press
of history with them," said Brian Urlacher, the Bears' star linebacker. "We don't like them, they don't like us."

Both conference championships games will feature No. 2 seeds (Chicago and Pittsburgh) against No. 6 seeds (New York and Green Bay) that are playing some of their best football at just the right time. □

Raiders promote Hue Jackson to head coach

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders promoted offensive coordinator Hue Jackson to head coach on Monday after he helped the team more than double its scoring output in his first year with the franchise.

Jackson will be formally introduced at a news conference Tuesday — two weeks after the Raiders announced they were not picking up an option to keep coach Tom Cable.

"The fire in Hue will set a flame that will burn for a long time in the hearts and minds of the Raider football team and the Raider Nation," owner Al Davis said in a statement.

Jackson was widely considered the leading contender to get the job as soon as the Raiders announced Cable's departure. This is Jackson's first head coaching job at any level.

Jackson was hired a year

ago to take over the play-calling duties from Cable and oversaw a transformation on offense. Oakland scored more than twice as many points in 2010 as it did in '09 — and the Raiders won eight games and avoid an eighth straight losing season. "I'm excited about Hue getting the head coaching job," Raiders tight end Zach Miller said in a phone interview. "I really like the direction our offense is going and how much we improved. This was the best offensive year we've had since I've been a Raider. I'm excited to have the continuity."

Jackson was popular with players on both sides of the ball in Oakland, with the defenders enjoying the competitive nature he brought to practice each day. Linebacker Quentin Groves wrote on his Twitter feed, "Congrats to Hue Jackson ... This is gonna be a great ride!!!"

Led by quarterback Jason

Campbell, a breakout season from running back Darren McFadden and big plays from rookie receiver Jacoby Ford, the Raiders finished sixth in the league in scoring with 410 points.

That was the sixth-most points in franchise history and a huge improvement from 2009, when former first overall pick JaMarcus Russell spent most of the time at quarterback.

"That's what I came here for," Jackson said late in the season. "It would be different if there wasn't and then I'd be really upset but that's why I'm here. That's why I came to the Raiders, was to improve, but we didn't improve fast enough. ... We expect to be challenging for the playoffs, challenging for our division year in and year out and we're not getting that done, so to me, that's a disappointment. There's either first place or there's last place and there's no in between."

That was a far different tone than the one expressed by Cable, who notably pronounced "you can't call us losers anymore," after the Raiders capped an 8-8 season by beating AFC West champion Kansas City in the season finale.

The Raiders won all six division games, but only two of their other 10 games. They became the first team since the 1970 merger to have a perfect record in the division and not make the postseason.

Jackson will try to get the Raiders back to the playoffs for the first time since winning the 2002 AFC championship. Davis has let go of five coaches since then.

The latest was Cable, who had wide support from his players, who credited him with helping make the team a contender in the AFC West this season after a run of seven straight years of at least 11 losses.

But Cable's relationship



In this Nov. 21, 2010, photo, Oakland Raiders offensive coordinator Hue Jackson watches warmups for the Raiders' NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press
with Davis was not as good and the owner decided not to exercise a two-year, \$5 million option to keep him as head coach. Cable filed a grievance against the Raiders to recover \$120,000 in fines that Davis withheld from Cable's paychecks in his last season. □

AUSOPEN

Continued from Page B1

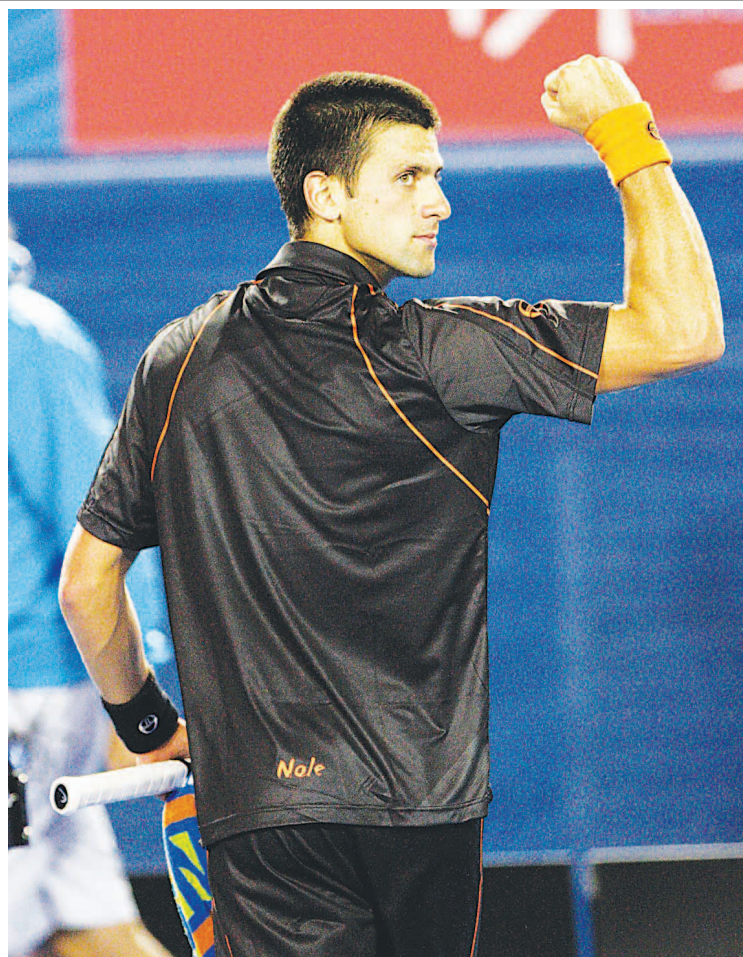
Federer is aiming to become only the second man to win the Australian Open five times; Roy Emerson won six. Retaining the title at Melbourne Park would stall the prospect of knowing what it's like not to hold any of the major trophies. He's won at least one of the four each year since 2003.

At the moment, Nadal owns three — winning the French, Wimbledon and U.S. Open crowns last year to get himself into position to be the first man to win four consecutive majors since Laver completed the calendar Grand Slam in 1969. He starts Tuesday against Marcos Daniel of Brazil. Also on his half of the draw are last year's finalist, Andy Murray, and No. 4-ranked Robin Soderling.

Soderling had trouble in Melbourne last year, exiting in the first round in an upset loss to Marcel Granollers.

With that in mind, Djokovic took no chances against Granollers on Monday night, soundly beating the 24-year-old Spaniard 6-1, 6-3, 6-1. He thinks it's premature for anyone to be talking about winning the title.

"I try to think about myself



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts after beating Marcel Granollers of Spain during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011.

Associated Press

and my matches, the opponents that I have to face, not about the other guys," he said. "Of course, all the credit to Rafa and Roger. They are deservedly the two biggest favorites to win this tournament. They're the two

best players of the world.

"(But) definitely this performance gives me more confidence and gives me enough reason to think that I can beat anyone."

Caroline Wozniacki started her first major tournament

as the No. 1-ranked woman with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Argentina's Gisela Dulko, while fourth-seeded Venus Williams advanced 6-3, 6-2 over Sara Errani of Italy 6-3, 6-2.

She's the only Williams sister in the draw after defending champion Serena withdrew with an injured foot.

Justine Henin had her struggles against Indian qualifier Sania Mirza before winning 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 in what she called her "first official match in six months."

Henin was only weeks into a comeback from retirement when she reached the final here last year in a brilliant return to the tour. Injuries curtailed the end of her season. "I think physically I'm probably better than a year ago. And I'm getting there," she said. "I know I came through difficult moments in the last few months. But now I'm here ... the passion is back."

Maria Sharapova won here in 2008 but was unable to defend her title because of injury. She was ousted in the first round last year, so it was a big relief to finally win at Melbourne Park on Monday, beating Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-1, 6-3. "I was definitely a little bit

nervous in the beginning. Last year, I played first match on center and I lost," she said. "Kind of was like, 'I don't want this to happen again this year.'"

She advanced along with French Open champion Francesca Schiavone, 2010 semifinalist Li Na of China and No. 15 Marion Bartoli, who shut out Italy's Tathiana Garbin 6-0, 6-0.

On the men's side, eighth-seeded American Andy Roddick started strongly with a 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 win over Jan Hajek of the Czech Republic. "I feel healthy and strong for the first time in a while," he said. His U.S. Davis Cup teammates had a tougher time, with Mardy Fish coming back from two sets down to win in five for the first time in his career and Sam Querrey losing in a five-setter.

No. 18 Querrey went down 5-7, 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 8-6 to Lukasz Kubot of Poland, while No. 18 Fish overcame Victor Hanesescu of Romania 2-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3.

Gael Monfils was down two sets and a break and facing a first-round defeat before Thiemo de Bakker imploded, letting the 12th-seeded Frenchman rally for a 6-7 (5), 2-6, 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 win. □



Belgium's Justine Henin celebrates her win over India's Sania Mirza during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championships in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 17, 2011.

Associated Press

JOCELYN GECKER

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Justine Henin felt nervous and afraid, she struggled and was forced to fight back — in other words,

Henin wins opening match at Open

she thought it was the perfect return to the Australian Open after a six-month hiatus from tennis. The seven-time Grand Slam champion started out rusty before rallying to beat Indian qualifier Sania Mirza 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 and avoid a first-round exit in Melbourne.

"I have the experience, but I need matches. I need rhythm, and I need fight — like tonight," said Henin, the No. 11-seed. "It's a good way for me to enter the tournament."

The 28-year-old Henin is no stranger to comebacks, both personal and professional.

Henin was ranked No. 1 when she abruptly announced her retirement from tennis in 2008, only to return 20 months later and make it to last year's Australian Open final, where she lost to defending champion Serena Williams.

That encouraging comeback was cut short at Wimbledon in 2010 when she tumbled in a fourth-round match, partially tearing a

ligament in her right elbow that ended her competition for the year. In her first tournament of 2011, Henin led Belgium to the Hopman Cup final but considers the Australian Open her "first official match in the last six months."

The 24-year-old Mirza started strong, while Henin had trouble finding her rhythm and chasing down shots. Even her trademark one-handed backhand was misfiring, and Henin failed to convert one set point in the first. Mirza then broke the Belgian's service and won the next two games to take the opening set.

"Even if I wasn't at my best, I was fighting at every point," Henin said. "I tried to stay in the match." Mirza, a two-time Grand Slam mixed doubles champion, is trying to claw back through the rankings after dropping from a high of No. 27 to 145, due partly to a wrist injury that kept her out of the game for five months last year.

Her early momentum gave way to errors, though, and Henin rallied in the second set and stormed through the third to finish off the match.

"It feels good to lose to a player who you know is of the caliber of Justine," Mirza said. "I gave everything I had, and she was just too strong in the third set."

Henin said she felt "very nervous" walking onto the court, and once the match got under way she felt "afraid."

"But the passion is back," she said. When Henin took her break from tennis in 2008, she said she wanted to experience life. She retired while holding the No. 1 ranking in May 2008, saying she had lost her passion for the sport she began as a child. Her time off turned into a spiritual journey and she returned with a new perspective on the game.

It was one of several steps on the road to finding herself through tennis. □

HP Will Show 'Future of webOS' with Tablet and More

Get ready for the new webOS. Hewlett-Packard has indicated that its Feb. 9 launch event will include one or more tablets, and possibly netbooks and new smartphones, based on the operating system it acquired when it bought Palm. On Jan. 7, HP Executive Vice President Todd Bradley told CNBC's Maria Bartiromo that the Feb. 9 event will show "the future of webOS" and the "breadth of products" that the platform will enable.

'Connected Experience'

Nearly 100 new tablets from a variety of manufacturers were shown at the recent Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, but HP chose to delay launching its new tablet line. Bradley indicated this was part of the company's strategy, so there could be a focus on what he described as the "connected experience that we'll create."

His reference to connectedness, and the press invitations that ask the bearer to think big, small and beyond, appear to strengthen predictions that HP will show webOS over a variety of form factors tablets, netbooks, smartphones, possibly even printers, smart TVs, and other devices.

In order to stand out from the current two biggest tablet platforms Apple's iOS and Google's open-source Android HP needs a clear differentiation. Bradley said webOS is the "first truly web-based operating system" and "the only true multitasking operating system, where you can have 20 different applications open simultaneously."

HP has acknowledged that webOS was the biggest strategic reason behind its acquisition of the struggling Palm last summer.

'Incredibly Elegant'

A key question is how many operating-system platforms can have a large installed base in the tablet category.

In addition to Apple and Android, there's RIM's new PlayBook, which the company is hoping will help it re-emerge as a market leader in innovation. RIM begins with a well-established advantage in the enterprise market because of its BlackBerry smartphones, and the PlayBook is designed for calendar, e-mail and messaging through a companion BlackBerry smartphone. Some observers have noted that, while this is an awkward combination for consumers, the PlayBook-with-BlackBerry configuration could make IT management of a large number of units a simpler proposition. Windows 7 tablets are making a slow entrance, and Microsoft has said it's developing a version of Windows for mobile ARM processors. And Nokia's MeeGo platform could also grow a major tablet presence for the world's largest handset maker.

Avi Greengart, an analyst with Current Analysis, said "there's room for a third, maybe even a fourth platform" among tablets. He noted that webOS has shown itself to be "incredibly elegant, with rich visual multitasking." Greengart also pointed out that writing applications for webOS "is similar to creating web applications," which could attract third-party developers to the platform.

Greengart said one big question is "how much HP is willing to invest in webOS." Unlike RIM with its PlayBook, he said, the success of the new OS isn't a critical component for the company's future health. □



Majors to sell music the day it hits radio, finally



The music industry is learning yet another lesson it should have learned a decade ago. According to The Register, Universal and Sony have finally decided to make digital copies of songs available for purchase the day they start airing on the radio. Typically, record companies will release high profile songs 1-2 months early, to build buzz for a major album release. The problem with this tactic is that the songs tend to peak in popularity before they are available for sale, and if a song isn't available legally, fans start downloading it illegally.

Universal CEO David Joseph recently said that research shows that Google and iTunes searches were peaking two weeks before songs went on sale, meaning that millions of fans were finding songs through alternative means, like P2P and BitTorrent downloading sites. Case in point: Britney Spears's new pop song "Hold It Against Me." It was just unveiled a few days ago, but I've already heard it at several places and parties that don't play radio even though the song isn't yet available legally. How many sales has Spears lost out on already?

Not that we have a huge fascination with Britney Spears. That would be weird. But it's good too see the record industry start listening to its fans. One small step at a time. □

Goldman excludes U.S. clients from Facebook offering



NEW YORK – Citing "intense media coverage," Goldman Sachs said on Monday it was excluding US clients from a private offering of shares in Facebook expected to raise as much as \$1.5 billion.

"Goldman Sachs originally intended to conduct a private placement in the US and offshore to investors interested in Facebook," the

New York securities firm said in a statement received by AFP.

Goldman noted that the transaction has received heavy media attention in recent days and said "in light of this intense media coverage, Goldman Sachs has decided to proceed only with the offer to investors outside the US."

"Goldman Sachs concluded

that the level of media attention might not be consistent with the proper completion of a US private placement under US law," it said.

US securities law bars public promotion of private offerings and the Facebook deal has already reportedly attracted the attention of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Goldman stressed that the decision to limit the offering to non-US offshore investors was "based on the sole judgment of Goldman Sachs and was not required or requested by any other party." "We regret the consequences of this decision, but Goldman Sachs believes this is the most prudent path to take," Goldman said. □

'Boardwalk Empire,' 'Glee' big winners at Globes

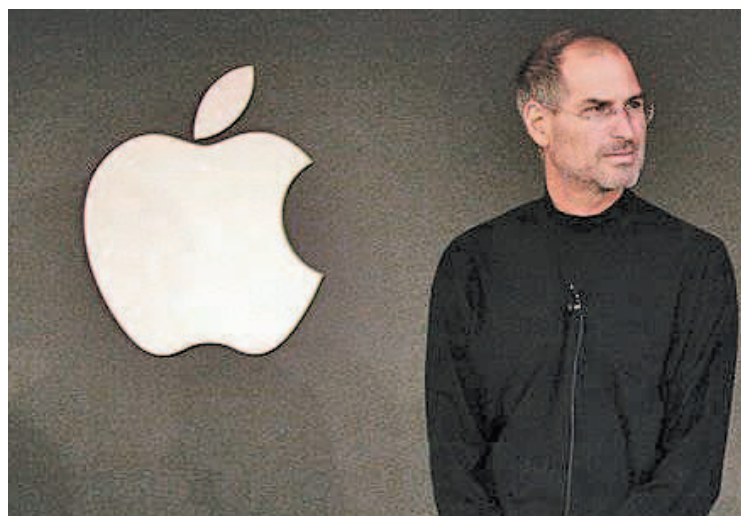


BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — It was a good night for HBO, “Glee” and probably the bartenders at Hollywood’s annual Golden Globe awards. HBO’s Prohibition-era drama “Boardwalk Empire” dethroned “Mad Men” as television’s top drama in the estimation of Golden Globe voters. Al Pacino and Claire Danes both won acting awards for their roles in HBO movies. “Glee,” meanwhile, won the Globe for television’s best comedy or musical, its second Globe for the two years the exuberant Fox series has been on the air. Actors who play two of its indelible characters, Jane Lynch and Chris Colfer, won supporting actor awards. NBC’s broadcast Sunday was loose and colorful, as it usually is at an awards show where alcohol is openly served. The night’s first award winner, movie actor Christian Bale, uttered a swear word that was wiped out by censors. Robert De Niro, who won a lifetime achievement award, also joked about foreign press association members and waiters being deported and was censored for saying “Christ” at one point. Host Ricky Gervais got off several zingers. He touched on personal problems of Charlie Sheen and Robert Downey Jr., for example. Gervais “used to be a slightly chubby, but very kind comedian,” Tom Hanks said in presenting

a late award. “Neither of which he is now,” chimed in Tim Allen. Gervais later thanked the audience for being good sports. Besides beating “Mad Men,” HBO’s “Boardwalk Empire” also topped another hot new show, AMC’s “The Walking Dead.” Steve Buscemi, the Atlantic City boss who is the star of “Boardwalk Empire,” won his first Golden Globe as best actor in a drama. More in Entertainment The New Royals: Insight on Prince William & Kate Middleton’s wedding Full coverage of the royal wedding on Yahoo! News Complete entertainment coverage “I hope we do it for years and years and years,” Buscemi said. Terence Winter, who created “Boardwalk Empire,” seemed ready to pinch himself. “To my family and friends in Brooklyn, I can’t believe I’m sitting at a table with Al Pacino, either,” he said. Pacino had his own walk to the stage, picking up his fourth Golden Globe, for acting in a television movie. Pacino, who portrayed suicide doctor Jack Kevorkian in HBO’s “You Don’t Know Jack,” talked about how interesting it was for him to play real people instead of fictional characters. □

Apple COO Cook steps up, again

SEATTLE — Steve Jobs’ third medical leave from Apple Inc ushers in a third stint in charge for his No. 2 Tim Cook, the low-profile but highly regarded executive tipped to lead the company one day. The 50-year-old Alabama native, who has been at the company since 1998, was seen as a safe bet to run Apple’s day-to-day operations while Jobs was away for medical reasons in 2009. During that time, the company prospered and its stock jumped 60 percent. Although lacking Jobs’ showmanship he is not known for pitching products on stage Cook is regarded as the effective force behind Apple’s day-to-day operations. But last week, it was Cook, not Jobs, who took the stage in New York to announce that its popular iPhone would be available to customers of Verizon Wireless, the top U.S. mobile operator. “I spent some time with Tim Cook last week in New York, and walked away from my discussion with him thinking that he was much more in charge at Apple than people think,” said Tim Bajarin,



president of research firm Creative Strategies. “He has emerged as a most competent person who could carry Steve Jobs’ vision into the future.” Apple investors and board of directors appear to agree. The company’s shares rose 60 percent between Jobs’ last leave of absence between mid-January and late June 2009. Its board awarded him a cash and stock bonus valued at about \$22 million for that stint, at Jobs’ recommendation, citing his “outstanding performance in assuming the day-to-day operations.” More in Entertainment The New Royals: Insight on Prince William & Kate

Middleton’s wedding Full coverage of the royal wedding on Yahoo! News Complete entertainment coverage Cook’s total compensation for 2010 was \$59 million, mostly in stock awards, according to the company’s latest filing with securities regulators. Many believe Cook will one day succeed Jobs as CEO at Apple, although the company has never disclosed any succession plan. “Since Jobs returned to Apple, he has created a powerful management team that really does understand how he thinks and his vision and direction for Apple,” said Bajarin. □



Book on Chinese Mothering Tactics Spurs Debate

Playgroup circles and moms’ groups beware. There’s a new book in town and it’s spurring a lot of debate over what Western moms are supposedly doing wrong and why some strict Chinese moms may think they are superior. Yale Law Professor Amy Chua’s Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother details a childhood of no play dates, no sleepovers, no TV or computer games, mandatory piano or violin lessons and a school grade requirement of an A in all subjects. But is this Tiger mother for real? Last week on the CBS chat fest, “The Talk,” host Julie Chen had a thing or two to say about the new book. Chen, who was raised in a Chinese household in Queens, said her mom did indeed raise her with some of the strict rules detailed in the book no sleepovers, for example. But that doesn’t mean she necessarily agrees with all of the tactics. Meanwhile “Talk” co-host Holly Robinson-Peete said she rather liked this idea of “gangsta parenting,” but admitted that maybe Chau sometimes goes a little too far. In an O Magazine interview, Chau said, “I do believe that when your child does poorly on a test, your first step should not necessarily be to attack the teacher or the school’s curriculum. It should be to look at the idea that, maybe, the child didn’t work hard enough.” □



South Africans accept Wal-Mart bid

JOHANNESBURG – A South African chain's shareholders have overwhelmingly accepted Wal-Mart's offer to buy 51 percent of their company, the chief executive said Monday, paving the way for the giant U.S.-based retailer to enter Africa.

Massmart said the proposal was approved by 97 percent of shareholders who voted Monday. 75 percent had been needed. Wal-Mart offered 148 rand (about \$20) per share in a 17 billion rand (about \$2 billion) deal.

The deal will have to be approved by South Africa's anti-monopoly regulators.

Massmart CEO Grant Pattison said once the deal goes through, Massmart will continue to operate the stores and continue to be

listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, while Wal-Mart will be the main owner. Massmart runs about 290 big box, pharmacy, electronics and other stores in 14 African countries.

"They are a great retailer and we really are looking forward to learning something from them, and teaching them something about Africa," Pattison told The Associated Press. "We're excited because they're coming as our partners."

Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, has 8,692 stores in 15 countries, among them Brazil, China and India. But it has not until now ventured into Africa.

South Africa has the most developed economy on a continent slowly emerging

from grinding poverty, and one that fared better than other parts of the world during the global recession. Consulting firm McKinsey & Company has concluded that global business cannot afford to ignore Africa's potential, or its growing middle class. The World Bank has said the continent is finally seeing the results of years of market reforms and investment in education and health care.

Business here has welcomed Walmart's arrival as recognition of the potential of the continent's economy, and of the reach South African retailers have throughout Africa.

South African labor groups, though, say that Wal-Mart is anti-union. Wal-Mart has said it would respect contracts and



is committed to working with South African unions.

Sidumo Dlamini, president of the powerful Congress of South African Trade Unions, was at Massmart's Johannesburg headquarters for Monday's shareholders' vote. He said that while the approval was expected, he

was disappointed.

The deal holds "nothing for the workers. We have empirical evidence from other countries where Wal-Mart is operating. It has never done anything for the workers," Dlamini said. Labor activists from South Africa and abroad addressed the shareholders' meeting. □

Euro zone finance ministers discuss changes to rescue fund

BRUSSELS – Euro zone finance ministers called on Monday for an increase in the effective lending capacity of the currency bloc's rescue fund, but EU paymaster Germany said there was no urgency and it would be March before a firm plan was in place.

Growing realization that a deal to widen the bailout fund was not imminent caused the euro to retreat on Monday from a one-month high reached after successful debt auctions by Portugal and Spain last week.

Dutch Finance Minister Jan Kees de Jager said it was vital that euro zone governments under pressure forge ahead with structural economic reforms and deficit-cutting to make debt levels sustainable.

It was also important that the full amount earmarked for states shut out of credit markets be available if required, not the smaller amount that can actually be tapped now because of the need to put cash aside, he said.

"We have an emergency fund in place. We will look if it needs an increase so as to have 700 billion euros (\$932 billion) available, instead of a lower amount," De Jager said on arrival for the monthly meeting of the 17-nation Eurogroup.

A Reuters poll of bank analysts across Europe

found most expect euro zone policymakers eventually to increase the firepower of the European Financial Stability Facility by 260 billion euros to 700 billion.

But German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said that with bond markets calmer, there was no rush to take action now and work was being prepared for a late March EU summit.

"There will not be results today, the market developments in the last week have, thank God, taken any urgency out of these discussions," he told reporters.

ENHANCEMENT NEEDED

The European Commission and the European Central Bank called last week for the region to boost the effective capacity of the rescue fund the European Financial Stability Facility as well as expanding its scope of operations.

ECB President Jean-Claude Trichet reiterated the central bank's call for improvement of the fund "qualitatively and quantitatively."

By qualitative enhancement the ECB most likely means taking over the purchases of government bonds on the secondary market, now done by the central bank, ECB Governing Council member Athanasios Orphanides indicated.

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Errors lead surgeons to contemplate suicide

Continued from Front Page

Arkansas Dr. Robert Lehmborg, 63, said it took prodding from close friends to finally get him to seek treatment for depression and suicidal thoughts several years ago. Though he feared losing his license and being stigmatized, neither happened, and he said medication and psychotherapy have greatly helped.

Working 60 to 80 hours weekly in a busy Little Rock, Ark. plastic surgery office contributed to his depression, but Lehmborg said he was careful to avoid medical errors.

“Surgeons are taught that the patient is their responsibility, period. So absolutely, if something goes wrong, the surgeons I know take it very

personally,” Lehmborg said. He was not involved in the study. Lehmborg now works in palliative care, helping ease suffering in dying patients.

The study appears in the January issue of Archives of Surgery. It was commissioned by the American College of Surgeons and surveyed members of that group by e-mail. Answers were anonymous.

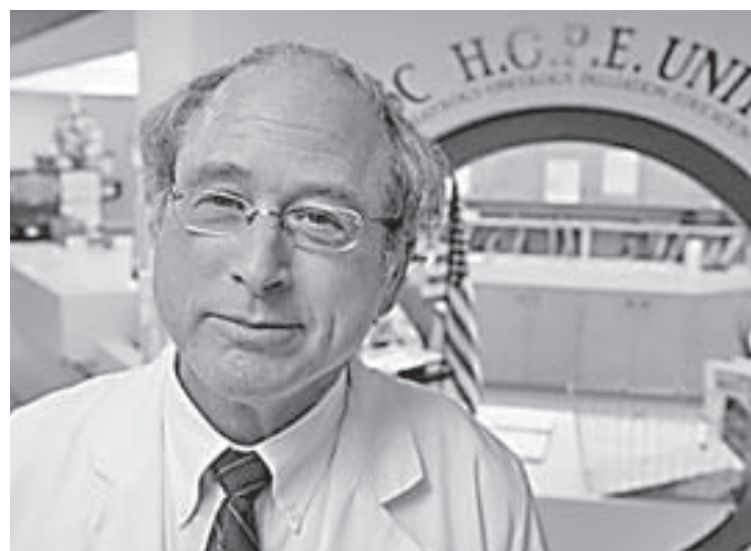
Surgeons were questioned about whether they’d had suicidal thoughts within the past year. They weren’t asked about suicide attempts but the authors said as many as 50 percent of people who think about suicide also make an attempt.

The research didn’t address specific reasons why they had contemplated suicide but

strongly suggests depression, job burnout and medical errors were contributing factors. To a lesser extent, being unmarried, divorced and childless also were linked with contemplating suicide. Other factors also could have contributed to a risk for suicidal thoughts.

Results published previously from the same survey showed almost 9 percent of participating surgeons said they’d made a recent major medical error. Overall, surgeons queried worked 60 hours per week on average; 40 percent felt burned out; and 30 percent had symptoms of depression. Most said their work left little time for personal and family life.

Few who worked less than 40 hours weekly had suicidal



thoughts.

Editorial authors Kelly McCoy and Sally Carty, both surgeons at the University of Pittsburgh’s medical school, said these issues are too often ignored.

Surgeons work long, irregular hours in an environment that

honors self-denial, prizes resilience, “and tends to interpret imperfection as failure,” they said.

The survey only queried surgeons so it is not known if they have a higher rate of suicidal tendencies than other doctors. □



Patients at high risk for melanoma benefit from a follow-up program that can detect the deadly skin cancer at an early stage, new research finds, while a second study notes that embarrassment prevents some people from having a doctor examine their skin for suspicious lesions.

Both studies appear in the journal Archives of Dermatology.

People at high risk for melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer, include those with fair skin, blond or red hair, blue eyes, freckles and/or a family history of the

disease, as well as those who have been exposed to artificial UV-A radiation or who have suffered severe sunburns, especially during childhood.

“Patients who are at high risk, who fit this profile, should be routinely screened [for skin cancer] annually along with other surveillance measures for colon cancer, mammograms, etc.,” advised one dermatologist, Dr. Michele Green of Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. She was not involved in the new research.

The first study, conducted in Spain, included 40 melanoma

Thorough Exams a Must for Those at High Risk of Skin Cancer

patients who were in a special follow-up program designed for high-risk individuals, as well as 161 melanoma patients who were simply referred to another clinician in the same hospital. All the melanoma diagnoses were made using dermoscopy, a noninvasive microscopic evaluation of a skin lesion.

The researchers found that only 12 percent of melanomas diagnosed in the follow-up program fulfilled all four criteria for melanoma detection: asymmetry, uneven borders, colors, and differential dermoscopic structures, compared with almost 64 percent of melanomas diagnosed in the doctor-referred group.

In addition, 70 percent of melanomas diagnosed in the follow-up group had not spread beyond the initial site, compared with about 28

percent of those in the referred group. Tumors also tended to be thinner in the follow-up group.

In the follow-up group, melanomas were diagnosed at the earliest stages: 70 percent at stage zero and 30 percent at stage IA. In the referral group, about 28 percent of melanomas were diagnosed at stage zero, 37.6 percent at stage IA, nearly 13 percent at stage IB, about 11 percent at stage II, 8.5 percent at stage III, and 2.4 percent at stage IV. The study was published online Monday but will appear in the journal’s May print edition.

The second study, appearing in the January issue of the journal, found that patient embarrassment, time constraints and other health conditions may prevent doctors from conducting regular full-body skin

examinations of their patients. It also found that dermatologists are much more likely than internists and family doctors to conduct these screenings for skin cancer.

Researchers analyzed survey responses from 679 dermatologists, 559 family practitioners (doctors specializing in family medicine), and 431 internists from across the United States. The results showed that regular full-body skin examinations of patients were conducted by 81.3 percent of dermatologists, compared to only 59.6 percent of family practitioners and 56.4 percent of internists.

The most common reasons for not performing this type of examination were patient embarrassment/reluctance, time constraints, and other patient illnesses. □

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New China pollution targets inadequate: Greenpeace



BEIJING — Environmental group Greenpeace on Monday praised China for setting new pollution targets but said the measures fell well short of what was needed to curb the country's world-beating carbon emissions.

The environmental protection ministry said late last week it had added nitrogen oxide and ammonia nitrogen to a list of major pollutants that it wants reduced by 1.5 percent this year, according to state media. The nitrogen compounds join chemical oxygen demand a measure of water contamination and sulphur

dioxide on the list of reduction targets set by Beijing.

“Given the urgency of the environmental crisis in China, it’s just not enough to have only those four pollutants as the targets,” Greenpeace China climate and energy campaign manager Yang Ailun told AFP.

To achieve the targets, authorities will crack down on heavily-polluting industries such as paper-making, textiles, leather and chemicals and make greater efforts to control vehicle emissions, the ministry said.

It will also invest in wastewater

treatment plants and develop technologies to reduce factory emissions.

Yang said the government needed to set up an effective monitoring system to ensure the measures were carried out and take swift action against violators.

China which in November admitted it is the world's biggest greenhouse gas emitter has some of the world's worst air pollution after rapid growth over the past 30 years triggered widespread environmental damage.

The country has invested billions of dollars to clean up its environment but has so far refused to cut emissions outright, saying doing so would unfairly hurt its economic development.

China instead pledged last year to slow the growth in its emissions by reducing energy consumption per unit of GDP by 40-45 percent from 2005 levels by 2020 essentially a vow of greater energy efficiency. □

Bjork petitions Iceland to stop energy sale



STOCKHOLM - Bjork presented a petition on Monday to Iceland's prime minister, protesting against the sale of an Icelandic geothermal energy company.

The deal to sell Iceland's HS Orka to Canadian-based geothermal firm Magma Energy Corp was approved by a parliamentary oversight committee last year, but has faced public opposition since most notably from Biork.

The Icelandic singer, who is known for her political activism, has said that Icelanders should be allowed to decide through a referendum whether access to the country's natural resources should be privatized.

Bjork led a group of 70 to 80 protesters to present Prime Minister Johanna Sigurdardottir with the petition of 47,000 signatures, Iceland's Morgunbladid newspaper reported on its website. Iceland has a population of about 319,000.

Sigurdardottir then invited the singer and two other activists to her office for a chat.

“Basically we are in agreement on the issue, but it’s always a question of methods. In plain language, it’s a question of how to deal with the system, the bureaucracy,” Bjork told reporters after the meeting.

Sigurdardottir, who joined in with protestors singing outside her office in downtown Reykjavik, said in a video posted on the Morgunbladid website that she had accepted the petition “with great pleasure.”

Magma, headed by mining magnate Ross Beaty, said on Monday it was “business as usual” at the company and its subsidiary. Neither Magma nor Orka had been contacted by the government, Magma spokeswoman Alison Thompson said.

"The transactions have been reviewed several times. They have all come back to be legally binding and appropriate," she said. Magma's shares were 4 Canadian cents weaker, or down 2.9 percent, at C\$1.34 on the Toronto Stock Exchange on Monday afternoon.

The sale of Orka to Magma was agreed to by Iceland's previous government, which was brought down by the financial crisis.

Thompson said the reviews of the Orka sale were completed by the current government. □

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Ecuador: preparan cuestionario para consulta popular

QUITO (AP) - El gobierno del presidente Rafael Correa tiene previsto remitir a la Corte Constitucional las 10 preguntas que espera formular a la población en una consulta popular que abarcará temas que van desde aspectos de seguridad hasta las corridas de toros. Sin embargo, algunos analistas opinan que el interés de Correa por el referendo es el de revalidar el apoyo popular del que hasta ahora goza. Para él “todo hecho público se vuelve un medio para ratificar su presencia en el poder”, opinó el catedrático de la Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales Jorge León, de la Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO). En diálogo con la AP, señaló que el referendo “es parte de la búsqueda de legitimidad”, lo cual ha sido parte de su estrategia política. El analista cree que las probabilidades de

que el gobierno tenga éxito en la consulta son “altas”, pero advierte que una coyuntura política adversa puede servir de “pretexto para manifestar oposición” al líder de la propuesta. Paulina Recalde, socióloga y directora de la encuestadora Perfiles de Opinión, coincide en que el proceso electoral significará para el régimen “recuperar el vigor y la adhesión emocional” hacia para el presidente Correa. Añadió que los temas de inseguridad y reformas a la justicia “son preocupaciones de la población y tendrán apoyo mecánico e inmediato”, por lo que será “complejo” para la oposición promocionar el “No”, en esos casos. Si bien en un tipo de democracia como la de Ecuador una consulta popular tiene relación no solo con lo que se pregunta sino con quién pregunta, hay que recordar que el gobernante cuenta con un “78% de



El presidente de Ecuador, Rafael Correa

aprobación”, según la última medición de Perfiles de Opinión, acotó Recalde. Aunque inicialmente el mandatario anunció que aspectos como la prohibición para realizar corridas de

toros u operación de juegos de azar en el país, así como la posibilidad de explotar un campo petrolero en una zona de reserva natural y otros, estarían incluidos en la consulta, no se ha difundido

oficialmente cuáles serán los temas de las 10 preguntas. Correa, un economista de izquierda llegó al poder en enero del 2007 y fue reelecto para un nuevo período que culmina en 2013. □

Cuba dice medidas Obama positivas pero insuficientes

LA HABANA (Reuters) - Cuba aplaudió el domingo una flexibilización de las restricciones de viaje anunciada por el presidente Barack Obama, pero dijo que era un paso limitado que no cambiaba la hostilidad de Estados Unidos hacia la isla.

Obama ordenó el viernes autorizar los viajes académicos y religiosos a Cuba, además de permitir que los estadounidenses envíen dinero a Cuba y ampliar la cantidad de aeropuertos que operan vuelos directos a la isla.

“Aunque las medidas son positivas, se quedan muy por debajo de esos justos reclamos, tienen un alcance muy limitado y no modifican la política contra Cuba”, dijo el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Cuba en un comunicado divulgado el domingo por la noche.

El Gobierno cubano dijo que la suavización de las restricciones de viaje no altera el embargo comercial con el que Washington lleva casi medio siglo intentando forzar un cambio en el sistema comunista de la isla.

“Estas medidas confirman que no hay voluntad para cambiar la política de bloqueo y desestabilización contra Cuba”, dijo el comunicado. Cuba y Estados Unidos están enfrentadas desde la revolución que llevó en 1959 a Fidel Castro al poder y transformó la isla en una nación comunista.

La Casa Blanca dijo que la flexibilización de los viajes busca fomentar los contactos personales y el flujo de información para que los cubanos decidan libremente su futuro. El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores repuso el domingo que la administración Obama pretende usar las nuevas medidas “para fortalecer los instrumentos de subversión e injerencia en los asuntos internos de Cuba”. □

Renuncia candidata oficialista a presidencia de Perú

LIMA (Reuters) - La aspirante del oficialismo a la presidencia de Perú, Mercedes Aráoz, renunció el domingo a su candidatura, dijo un medio local, en medio de discrepancias con la lista de postulantes al Congreso elaborada por el APRA que sumieron al partido en una de sus peores crisis.

La ex ministra de Economía del presidente Alan García rechazaba que el segundo del partido aprista, el ex primer ministro Jorge del Castillo, fuese incluido en la lista al Congreso debido a que es investigado por un presunto delito de corrupción, lo que desató una pugna dentro del partido.

En una votación interna del APRA realizada el domingo, del Castillo -secretario general del partido- fue ratificado como cabeza de lista, precisó el diario El Comercio en su sitio web.

“Pongo mi candidatura a disposición; si renuncio a mi candidatura al Partido Aprista (...) con esto queda saldado el tema”, dijo Aráoz, una independiente que había sido convocada por el oficialismo, según citó El Comercio.

“No es un tema de personalidades. Aquí hay un

tema de principios desde el primer momento en que me ofrecieron la candidatura (...) el único pedido que hice fue que no integraran la lista personas con procesos de corrupción”, agregó. Del Castillo, que ha negado varias veces cualquier participación suya en algún caso de corrupción, renunció en el 2008 al cargo de primer ministro tras denunciarse presuntos sobornos de la firma noruega Discover Petroleum para ganar la concesión de lotes petroleros en el país andino.

La denuncia provocó un escándalo que reveló la práctica de espionaje telefónico a políticos y empresarios. Aráoz también figuraba rezagada en los sondeos de opinión, ubicándose quinta en las preferencias de los votantes con un 4 por ciento en un estudio realizado por Ipsos Apoyo. La encuesta mostró que el ex presidente Alejandro Toledo lidera la carrera hacia la presidencia de Perú con un 27 por ciento de las preferencias, seguido por la hija del ex mandatario Alberto Fujimori, la congresista Keiko Fujimori, con un 22 por ciento. En tercer lugar apareció el ex alcalde capitalino Luis Castañeda con un 19 por ciento. □

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